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A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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#### CIRCULARS AND PRICE-LISTS.

##### HOW TO DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THE DRUG-TRADE.

MANY of the best advertisers in the drug-trade have endorsed our view that it is more effective as well as cheaper to distribute circulars and price-lists stitched up in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* than sending them singly by post. We make such assets in the C. & D. notable by the fact that we only receive them twice a year for distribution, and, of course, we ensure that they get into the hands of the right people. Sending them singly by post is more or less (principally "more") a lottery, gives immense office trouble, and costs at least three times more than our charge for inserting them in the C. & D. We would advise those who think of the matter to write to our Publisher for particulars about the next distribution—the Summer number, July 28, 1900. He will not only give particulars about the charges, but that artistic assistance he can in designing or arranging insets. The date is two months distant, but near enough for prompt instructions to printers.

#### Summary.

THE SENIOR WRANGLER is a chemist's son (p. 939).

THE IRRESPONSIBLE CYNIC contributes observations on the Queen's Hall Exhibition (p. 934).

MR. GEORGE BROWN, Dublin, has been elected a member of the Irish Pharmaceutical Council (p. 990).

THE "BOOKIE BIRD" is shown this week flying from the chair presidential in the pharmaceutical aviary (p. 994).

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL has drafted a regulation making 21 years the minimum age of entry (p. 990).

AUSTRALIAN DISPENSING DIFFICULTIES, contributed by Mr. T. E. Turner, bring out several novel points (p. 1010).

METHYLANTHRANILATE, the odorous principle of neroli, has been found by Mr. E. J. Parry in oil of lime-flowers (p. 993).

MR. JAMES REID urges the necessity for the company-question not being neglected by the Pharmaceutical authorities (p. 1012).

DUBLIN PHARMACISTS have taken the initial steps for inviting the British Pharmaceutical Conference to that city in 1901 (p. 980).

MR. T. MABEN, an ex-examiner to the Pharmaceutical Society, throws some light on the division of the Preliminary examination (p. 1013).

MR. NEWSHOLME, of Sheffield, has been elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society, with Mr. Allen, of Kilburn, as his Vice (p. 1000).

IN DISCUSSING the proposal to divide the Minor we show this week that the principle has been recognised in the Preliminary examination (p. 997).

M. PONTIER, a distinguished Parisian pharmacist, has published a classic history of French pharmacy which our Paris correspondents reviews (p. 987).

BRITISH BUSINESS is still on the up-grade, according to the Board of Trade returns, and the prosperity is shared by the chemical trade (p. 998).

SEPARATION of the stereoisomeric forms of ionone, preparation of salol homologues, and notes on essential oils, are treated under Scientific Progress (p. 1010).

THE SON of a Bath chemist who was in the fight at Wepener, and wounded in carrying ammunition to the fire-line, gives a graphic account of it (p. 993).

MR. F. W. FLETCHER replies to some observations by Dr. McWalter regarding tinctures, and criticises points in the official monograph respecting them (p. 1011).

THE CONSTITUTION OF PILOCARPINE has been studied by Dr. H. A. D. Jowett, and, as far as he has gone, he finds a methylamine group in it, and the beta lactone of isobutyl-malonic acid (p. 991).

THE markets are slightly brisker this week, but price-alterations are few. Quinine is 1d. lower in secondhands. Potassium cyanide is firmer, and so is cream of tartar. Turpentine is 2s. lower (p. 1015).

RECONSIDERATION of the company-question has been decided upon by the Pharmaceutical Council, Mr. Hills having unanimously moved to this effect (p. 1002), but the motion is non-committal (p. 997).

A BARROW girl wanted a pennyworth of carbolic acid to kill a dog. A chemist advised her to use 3d. worth of prussic acid. She drank the acid herself, and the chemist has been reprimanded by the coroner (p. 984).

THREE PAISLEY CHEMISTS have been summoned for selling weak camphorated oil, and one doctor of the same town for selling oil deficient in camphor and containing cottonseed oil. All had to pay costs (p. 1007).

CERIUM OXALATE B.P. contains just about 40 per cent. of cerium oxalate. So Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. F. Shedden have reported to the Society of Chemical Industry, with other interesting facts regarding cerium (p. 992).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL is again revising the By-laws of the Society, and has sent them back to committee to consider, amongst other things, the change of the title of the "Minor" to "Qualifying" examination (p. 1001).

IN A SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE CASE, heard in North London, the Chemists' Defence Association successfully contended that the spirit so rapidly deteriorates in retailing that retailers cannot be held responsible for its weakness (p. 1006).



## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

Two ounces of methylated spirit caused the death of a boy of 4 at Brighton last week. He drank it.

During a practical chemistry lesson at a school at Grays, Essex, last week, an explosion occurred, and one boy was considerably damaged about the face.

On June 7 a labourer in Messrs. Pearce's chemical-works, Bow, E., fell with a carboy of nitric acid and was so badly burned that he died in the London Hospital.

A youth named Rudd, in the employ of Mr. Everett, chemist, Colchester, was on June 9 accidentally shot by a young man with a revolver, and had the sight of one eye destroyed.

A chemist's assistant named Richards was ordered at Westminster County Court, on June 12, to pay 10s. a month or be committed in default in respect of a judgment-debt for a suit of clothes.

At Lambeth on June 13, a chemist's assistant named Adams was charged with failing to maintain his children, but it was stated that accused had now provided a home for the children, and the summons was dismissed.

The first Matriculation examination of the new University of Birmingham is to be held in September next. The professorial staffs of the University have been divided into faculties of science, arts, and medicine.

Dr. R. H. Mortlock, of Heskett-new-Market (about fourteen miles from Carlisle), died last week from prussic-acid poisoning. He had been despondent, and leaves a widow and three children. He was an M.B., C.M., Edin., 1837.

At Lancaster, on June 9, a boy named William Howarth was ordered to receive twelve strokes for stealing bottles of scent, brushes, and soap to the value of 5s. 11d., from his employer, Mr. Thomas Waddington, chemist, Morecambe.

"The Life of Bacteria" was the subject of the Friday evening lecture at the Royal Institution last week, Dr. Allan Macfadyen, of the Jenner Institute, being the lecturer. In the course of the lecture, he stated that he had again exposed bacteria to a temperature of  $-250^{\circ}\text{C}$ . without harming them.

### Contracts.

Mr. L. Adams supplies Cannock Workhouse with linseed-meal at  $2\frac{1}{2}\text{d.}$  per lb.

Messrs. Middleton Brothers, London, are to supply disinfectants to Dartford.

Mr. F. G. Smith is to supply East Ashford Workhouse with carbolic soap at 11. 7s. 6d. per cwt.

Until three years ago the Shardlow Guardians allowed their doctor 5s. per year for drugs. During the last three years the supply had cost 25s. The Chairman said the other day that either the inmates were neglected previously or they were over-dosed at the present time.

At the meeting of the Durham Guardians on June 2, the Finance Committee recommended that Mr. J. G. Rollin, chemist and druggist, Durham, should be requested to supply the local workhouse with soda-water and other articles, the contractor, Mr. Joseph Chapelow, having failed. Mr. Lunsden asked whether others besides Mr. Rollin should not be asked to tender, and the Chairman replied, "Not until the time is up." He added that Mr. Rollin would supply the goods at the same price as Mr. Chapelow. It transpired that the extras, in the shape of druggists' sundries, went with the contract, and the Chairman said that was unfair. The soda-water contract ought to be separate from the chemicals, and the chemists in the town ought to have a turn. Mr. Gray stated that the present system had been a grievance amongst the chemists of the town. The Master explained that Mr. Rollin could not supply soda-water at the price given by Mr. Chapelow, but Mr. Blythman would supply for 1s. 6d. Eventually the

committee's recommendation was negatived, and the Board gave the contract to Mr. Blythman.

### Small-pox and the Quarantine Laws.

Speaking at the monthly meeting of the Sanitary Committee of the Stalybridge County Council, the Mayor (Alderman Simpson), chemist and druggist, referring to a case of small-pox which had come into the town from Russia, and which had resulted in the spread of the disease to the extent of eighteen cases and three deaths, spoke strongly in favour of vaccination. He also brought up the unsatisfactory state of the quarantine law, and said he was very anxious that pressure should be brought to bear upon the proper authorities, so that small-pox be included with the other diseases in the quarantine law; and he thought that the sanitary part of London should have a medical man stationed at Queenborough, and possibly at other ports to intercept such a case as the one referred to. He proposed that a deputation be sent from Stalybridge to wait upon the Secretary to the Local Government Board (Mr. T. W. Russell), and, if possible, induce the Board to introduce a few words about small-pox to the quarantine regulations. On the proposition of a councillor, a resolution to this effect was put to the meeting, and the Mayor, the Town Clerk, and Medical Officer were appointed a deputation to wait upon the Local Government Board with that end in view.

### Carbolic Cases.

Isaac Urrell (49), a Bolton mechanic out of work, drank some carbolic acid from a bottle on June 7. He was taken to the infirmary but died two hours afterwards.

Miss Maggie Chirney, of Morpeth, drank a quantity of carbolic acid on June 10, and died the same night. She had been in a depressed state of mind following an attack of influenza.

E. J. Wood, a draughtsman belonging to Plumstead, poisoned himself with carbolic acid at Ramsgate last week. At the inquest it was stated that he had taken from "1,000 to 1,500 minims of the acid, sufficient," says the newspaper report, "to kill 100 men, 15 minims being the fatal dose." That is a new statement to put before the laggard poison-supervisors at Whitehall.

### Prussic-acid Fatality.

The Barrow police authorities were informed on June 9 that a young girl named Mary Musson, aged 14 years, had poisoned herself. On that day she went to the shop of Mr. Charles Smith, chemist, Dalton Road, and asked for a pennyworth of carbolic acid. She said she wanted it to poison a vicious dog, whereupon Mr. Smith advised her to get prussic acid, as it would prove a much easier death for the animal. He supplied the girl with threepennyworth of prussic acid, and offered to accompany her and administer the poison. In reply, Musson said that her father and several other men were there, and could manage nicely. The girl then returned home, and drank the poison.

At the inquest the Coroner, after reviewing the evidence, said it was his duty to say that the chemist was very much to blame for the reckless and careless manner in which he had discharged his duty. He considered, if the chemist had used common sense, the suicide would not have happened. He had not even complied with the provisions of the Pharmacy Act. There was no excuse for him, and it rested with the police whether they prosecuted him or not.

### A Drink-cure Case.

Mr. E. Gibson, the Liverpool Deputy-Coroner, held an inquest on June 8 regarding the death of Michael Melvin, a dock-labourer, who was a heavy drinker, and had died two nights previously, after taking six doses of a drink mixture, obtained at a chemist's shop in St. James' Street, Liverpool. The assistant stated in evidence that the mixture was a stock one, which they kept for people who complained of the effects of drinking. Two ingredients of the medicine were digitalis and acetanilide. Questioned by the Deputy-Coroner, the assistant said he thought these ingredients would have the effect of stimulating the patient. Dr. Foulston, who testified that death was due to pneumonia, said the effect would be depressing. Taking into consider-



tion the condition of the patient, he did not think it was the right mixture to prescribe. Acetanilide sometimes brought about a collapse; but he did not find any evidence of collapse in this case, or that death was in any way accelerated by the medicine prescribed by the assistant. The Deputy-Coroner considered it extremely improper for any chemist to prescribe in the manner stated. He would like it to be understood that when he presided over an inquiry into such cases a close examination would be made, and the person who had prescribed the medicine would be severely censured. It was neither to the good nor to the safety of the public for unqualified persons to prescribe medicine for patients. The jury found a verdict of death from natural causes, and endorsed the remarks of the Deputy-Coroner.

#### Notes from a Birmingham Correspondent.

Suburban chemists' shops are growing apace. Yet another is to be opened by Messrs. Hedges, this time in Handsworth, at a spot where there will be no fewer than four pharmacists within a few hundred yards of each other. It would be possible when standing at the door of any to see into the other three.

Many inquiries have been made of local pharmacists in the Midlands as to the nature of carbon tetrachloride. Much of it is used about here, and railway companies, not knowing the nature of it, and fancying it of an explosive kind, have viewed with alarm its carriage on the railway. It has not been accredited with any dangerous properties up to the present time.

The origin of the Queen's present of chocolate is not generally known. The firms who supplied it were all Quakers, and as such did not desire to reap advantage from war, and they all refused the order from the War Office. This was represented to her Majesty, who at once ordered it for herself to be given to Messrs. Atkins in company as her own free gift.

The question of what should be the source of the alkaloids of belladonna-plasters is just now a common one, but it is understood in this district that if they contain the proper percentage of combined alkaloids it does not matter whether they are from leaves, or, as the B.P. requires, from the root. It is important to observe that no official process of assay is recorded in the B.P.

The town, like most, has given way to much "Mafeking" lately, but until very recently pharmacists have not displayed much of the war feeling. At one well-lighted drug-store in the principal street (Messrs. Boots') is to be seen an imposing picture of the Queen, and in front is one of the much-heard-of tin chocolate-boxes. Another shows a 15-pounder shell, which for some reason did not explode when fired, as the legend says, into the besieged Kimberley. Another somewhat sad exhibition shows a similar chocolate-box, with several medals and a V.C. decoration, the possessor of all having paid the last penalty for eagerness in the service of the god Mars.

Students of botany are aware of the special advantage to them of a visit to Sutton Coldfield Park and woods, and just now *Menyanthes trifoliata*, Venus's fly-trap, and *Drosera* may be seen around the pools in the bogs in great profusion. Valerian is in great quantity around the watery districts of Moseley and Yardley Wood. *Rhamnus frangula* is met with in a small wood just outside Solihull, near Robinhood. A large field of flax may be seen growing at Shirley. The lanes of Warwickshire and Worcestershire just now are quite a treat to the pharmaceutical botanist, whether qualified or not, owing to the great quantity of many medicinal plants to be found therein.

#### All for Pink Pills.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday, June 7, William Bishop, the chemist's assistant who obtained two dozen boxes of Dr. Williams's pink pills from Butler & Crispe by false pretences (see last issue, page 949), was sentenced to twenty-one days' imprisonment. Mr. Ricketts, on Bishop's behalf, stated that he had a wife and four children, and was in pecuniary difficulties. He had once been in business on his own account, but had failed.

#### The Boating Fatality.

A correspondent in Hull informs us that of the five young men who were drowned off Marsden, as noted in our

last issue, page 948, three were with Messrs. Williamson & Hogg, chemists, Saville Street, North Shields. These were Walter Ferguson, assistant; William Jackson, senior apprentice; and John Paulson, the second apprentice. Mr. Thomas Jackson, another of the drowned, was a brother of William Jackson, and the fifth lad drowned was John F. Watson, a brother of an apprentice in the same place of business. Paulson's body was found fixed in the boat. The other bodies were recovered on June 7. William Jackson and John Paulson were members of a temperance reed band.

#### Cricket.

Aldersgate C.C. (S. Maw, Son & Thompson) v. Orb C.C. (Vyse, Sons & Co.).—In this match, on June 9, at Denmark Hill, the light of the "Orb" was partially eclipsed. Aldersgate C.C. scored 88 runs, and their opponents but 55. Messrs. M. T. Maw, Lawrence, and Jones batted well for the winners, and Mr. Conen for the losers. Mr. Extras had a fairly large proportion of runs.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### July Pharmaceutical Examinations.

All applications for the under-mentioned examinations must be lodged (with the other necessary papers) with the Registrar by 11 o'clock A.M. on the following dates:—For the Preliminary examination, on Tuesday, June 19; for the Pharmaceutical Assistants' examination, on Monday, June 25; for the Registered Druggist examination, on Tuesday, June 26; for the Pharmaceutical Licence examination, on Wednesday, June 27.

#### Personal.

Mr. P. N. White, pharmaceutical chemist, has been re-elected Chairman of the Sligo Board of Guardians.

#### Wanting to Know.

At a meeting of the Governors of the County Kerry Infirmary last week a letter was read from Mr. M. J. Nolan, one of the members of the joint committee who was unable to attend the meeting, drawing attention to the large sum paid for medicines for the half-year ending last October. The amount of the account was 58*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, with 20*l.* paid for extras. Mr. Nolan asked to be informed of the number of patients treated in the infirmary for the last half-year, and the amount paid for medicines and surgical appliances for same during that period. The Secretary said he would reply to Mr. Nolan, giving him the information he required.

#### A Pharmaceutical Phoenix.

A North Dublin pharmacist, formerly a leading spirit in the Irish Pharmacists' Association, but latterly a stranger thereto, has in hand a project for starting an assistants' society on the lines originally mapped out by the "Meyrick" committee—namely, a reading-room and an appointment-agency, both to be centrally situated and to be in charge of a responsible person who will act as caretaker and registrar. It is claimed by the "revivalist" that this is what the assistants really require, and that from the promises of support, financially and otherwise, given by employers and employes alike, the new society, when started, will be a success.

#### Action against Dublin Chemists.

Referring to the paragraph under this heading in our last issue, Messrs. Crowley & Bolger, solicitors to Messrs. Leonard & Co., wish to explain that "Nagle" had taken a lease of the premises in his own name and entered into the contract in his own name, and it was not until the month of November, 1897, when the repairs to the house were completed, that their clients had anything to say to the business. In that month a verbal agreement was entered into between their clients and Nagle for the carrying on of the business on certain partnership lines. This arrangement ceased in July, 1899, and Nagle still continues to carry on the business

in the house. Messrs. Leonard & Co. never had any interest in the premises and had nothing whatever to say to the contract, nor are they in any way liable in foot of it. They are now sued, not as principals, but on the ground that the benefit of the contract accrued to them; but Messrs. Crowley & Bolger consider the action, so far as their clients are concerned, frivolous and absurd, and they are defending it."

#### The Conference-meeting in 1901.

A meeting of pharmacists was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's House, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Tuesday evening, June 12, to consider the preliminary arrangements for an invitation to the British Pharmaceutical Conference to visit Dublin in 1901. Mr. G. D. Beggs was voted to the chair, and he was supported by about a dozen other local pharmacists. It was unanimously resolved to invite the Conference, and a guarantee fund was opened, over 60% being subscribed by those present. Letters were read from about twenty-five gentlemen, who were unable to attend the meeting, promising to give every support in their power. It was decided to open a guarantee fund forthwith, and that small as well as large subscriptions should be invited so that the response may be general. Also that the subscriptions should be paid into the fund, and any balance remaining after the Conference will be returned to the subscribers. It was agreed that the subscriptions should be confined to Dublin and the South of Ireland, and that chemists north of the Boyne should not be asked to join pecuniarily in this invitation, because on the occasion of the visit of the Conference to Belfast subscriptions were not solicited south of the Boyne. The prospects for the meeting are excellent, and as soon as the invitation is accepted a local committee will be formed and a treasurer and other officers appointed.

### Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### A Glasgow Man for a Toronto Chair.

Dr. William R. Lang, F.C.S., who has been appointed professor of chemistry in the University of Toronto, is a Glasgow man, and studied in the University there for the science degree, and after he got it he acted as chief assistant to Professor Ferguson, lecturing on organic chemistry. He also studied in London and Paris, and has contributed papers to the Chemical Society of London. He holds the D.Sc. degree of the Glasgow University, is specially interested in gas-liquefaction and is an enthusiastic member of the Volunteer Corps of Engineers.

#### Mr. Tocher on Dispensing Doctors.

Mr. James F. Tocher, F.I.C., and one of the Scottish members of the Board of Examiners of the Pharmaceutical Society, in his opening address as President of the British Order of Ancient Free Gardeners at Aberdeen on June 2, referred to the unsatisfactory manner in which medical men were paid for the services they rendered to friendly societies. He thought medical men should be paid for every visit, and not so much per head for the members of individual societies. The supply of medicines and the dispensing of prescriptions by lodge medical officers, while they were perfectly competent to do this, was entirely at variance with the tenets held and principles advocated by the various classes constituting friendly societies. Medical authorities now held it to be advisable, in the patient's interests, that the medical profession should confine itself entirely to the practice of medicine, and leave the practice of pharmacy to chemists and druggists, trained to this craft only, and compelled by statute to pass a stringent examination before being permitted to practise and trade as chemists and druggists. This view was also the view of the chemists. Mr. Tocher further said he concurred with the view of the best medical and other authorities that it was not only unfortunate for the practice of medicine, but disadvantageous to friendly societies and the public for medical men to keep open shop or to make a practice of dispensing medicines. On the

Continent the joint practice of medicine and pharmacy did not exist, and from the friendly-society point of view, from the ethical point of view, and from the patient's point of view, it is to the interests of all, as it is a duty to society, to employ the chemist as well as the physician, and to co-operate with the authorities on medicine and pharmacy in bringing about their complete separation, as it is an evolution for the public good.

### Welsh News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Sunday-sale of Seidlitz-powders.

At Swansea Police Court on Monday, June 11, an interesting point cropped up in a prosecution which had been instituted under the Lord's Day Observance Act against a number of tradesmen for breach of the provisions of the Act. One of the defendants was Mr. John Blackburn, of 25 Ebenezer Street, and the charge against him was that on Sunday, May 20, he had sold seidlitz-powders. After some argument, however, this was not regarded by the Bench as an article which came within the purview of the Act, and the case was therefore dismissed.

#### Drugs in Glamorgan.

Mr. C. A. Seyler, B.Sc., F.I.C., analyst for Glamorganshire, in the course of his annual report, states that amongst the samples analysed by him during the past quarter were three of sweet spirit of nitre, two each of milk of sulphur, olive oil, and tincture of rhubarb, and one each of compound tincture of benzoin, belladonna-plaster, and seidlitz-powders. Two of the sweet-nitre samples were of full strength, and one was 10 per cent. deficient in nitrous ether. The milk of sulphur was in each case free from sulphate of lime, "and this adulteration or substitution," the report continues, "appears to be now rare." One of the camphorated-oil samples was slightly deficient in camphor, and the contents of one of the packets of seidlitz-powders was somewhat short in weight. All the drug-samples were genuine.

### French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**NOXIOUS HAIR-DYES.**—The chemists of the Paris Municipal Laboratory have recently been engaged in analysing quite a stock of dyes for the hair and beard that have been seized in the shops of various hairdressers and dealers. It appears that frequent complaints had been made to the police that certain of these hair-dyes produce eczema and other skin diseases, and the municipal laboratory have pronounced several of the dyes to be noxious. The police have taken the matter in hand.

**THE HYGIENE OF THE TELEPHONE** is occupying the attention of a Paris firm, and they have introduced an antidote in the form of an antiseptic preparation called "Telosine." This is a formic-aldehyde preparation, and the price is 1*fr.* per bottle. The circular accompanying the antiseptic dwells at some length on the dangers that constantly menace us in the form of contagious maladies by the use of the telephone. The remedy is to clean the apparatus each time after being used with a small quantity of "Telosine."

**PHARMACY STUDENT STATISTICS.**—According to statistics published by the Administration of Public Instruction there are 3,395 pharmacy students inscribed in the various schools of pharmacy in France. Of the three superior schools Paris heads the list with 1,444 students, Montpellier has 215, and Nancy 60. At the mixed Faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy Lyons has 264, Bordeaux 228, Toulouse 184, and Lille 160. Then come the sixteen secondary and preparatory schools, which comprise the leading towns of France, and include Marseilles with 137 students, Nantes with 91, and Reims with only 18. Sixteen students of the



total number merely seek to obtain the University diploma, which is an honorary award. There are 37 foreigners inscribed, two being women. Sixty-three French women are comprised, the Paris school having 50, and Bordeaux 8. For the second-class diploma, which is soon to be a thing of the past, 1,543 names are down, against 1,837 students for the higher grade of *pharmacien de première classe*.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APPLIED CHEMISTRY.—The arrangements for this Congress, which is to be held in Paris on July 23-29, are making headway. Great Britain, Germany (especially Saxony), Austria (Vienna and Prague principally), the U.S.A., Italy, and Switzerland seem likely to be the most largely represented among foreign countries. There will be ten sections in the Congress, one (VIII.) being Medical and Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Adulteration of Foodstuffs. Professor Riche (ex-Professor School of Pharmacy, Paris) is President of this section. The eight Vice-Presidents are M. Behal, chief hospital-pharmacist (and Secretary-General Paris Chemical Society); M. Burker, inspector army-pharmacist; Dr. Patein, head pharmacist at Lariboisière-Hospital; Sangle-Ferrière, sub-director Municipal Laboratory; Vicario, pharmacist; Doctors Desgrez and Gley, of the Faculty of Medicine; and Geo. Halphen, chief chemist at the Ministry of Commerce. The provisional programme of the section includes papers or discussions on the use of soluble ferments in the preparation of medicaments; introduction of synthetic products into therapeutics; transformation of albuminoids; ferments of the blood; analysis of the impurities of mineral and other waters, milk, water, butter, alcohols, vinegars, and air.

## "HISTOIRE DE LA PHARMACIE."

(By our Paris Correspondent.)

I HAVE been fortunate enough to receive an early copy of M. André Pontier's "Histoire de la Pharmacie," one of the most notable works on this subject in respect to erudition and research. The author has long been engaged upon it, and has had many difficulties to contend with, but these, happily, have delayed publication until what is, perhaps, the most suitable time that could have been selected, seeing that it comes from the press while the Paris Exhibition is open and on the eve—may I say?—of a great International Congress of Pharmacy. Compared with its 729 pages of serried information, Philippe's "Histoire des Apothecaires" and Grave's work seem superficial studies. The conditions actually prevailing under which pharmacy is exercised in France (education, curriculum, &c.) form, with a biographical list of illustrious pharmacists, the introductory and main portion of the work. The history of French pharmacy is then entered upon. M. Pontier divides his history into three great periods—(1) from the Middle Ages to the Law of Germinal (1340-1803); (2) from the Law of Germinal to the first Pharmaceutical Congress in 1858; (3) from 1858 to the present day. He shows originality in his way of treating the first portion (1340-1803). In the Middle Ages the country which we now term France was occupied by several distinct kingdoms, and when these, one by one, became provinces of France they each retained—in some cases for centuries—many of their fundamental laws and customs, just as in the British Empire, and even in the United Kingdom itself, we have many self-governed provinces under one Crown. Aided by provincial pharmacists, to whom M. Pontier acknowledges his indebtedness, the author traces in separate chapters the early days of pharmacy in Languedoc, Lyons, Burgundy, Provence, the Franche-Comté, Lorraine, Alsace, Flanders, Normandy, Brittany, Guyenne, Anjou, Touraine, and other French provinces. He then passes to Paris, which is naturally more fully studied, the first period (1340-1803) and the second part (1803-1858) each occupying seventy or eighty pages. We thus arrive at the era when French pharmacists began to meet in national congresses (1856-57), which after a few years ripened into international gatherings, the first being held at Brunswick in 1855. The subsequent French and international congresses are reported at greater or less length down to the Brussels International Congress of 1879 and the Paris National Congress of 1898.

To this summary of French pharmaceutical history—by

far the most complete yet published—several interesting chapters are added. The progress of French military pharmacy from the sixteenth century to the present day is recorded, with a brief description of the organisation of foreign countries in this respect. Other chapters deal with French naval pharmacy, the Scientific Union of French pharmacists (which existed from 1876 to 1883), convent pharmacies, hospital pharmacies, and pharmacy in foreign countries. M. Pontier then proceeds to the "summing-up," and lays before the grand jury of his colleagues the leading points to be considered. The dangers of over-centralisation and undue State interference are insisted on. M. Pontier points out that the old French apothecaries' system, when the education, examination, and admission of candidates were carried on by men who really practised pharmacy, was a guarantee for really practical instruction and a possible limitation in the number of pharmacies. He also narrates the evils of the proprietary-medicine trade, and asks whether the existing law is not sufficient to put a stop to these abuses, and urges the total suppression of the herbalists' diploma. It is noticeable here, as in other portions of the work, that M. Pontier's ideal pharmacy exists not across the Channel, but across the Rhine, and he is ardent in the praise of the chemical reputation of German universities, and expresses admiration of the German system of limitation of the number of pharmacies. The most practical part of his arguments is his appeal to the effect that the men who actually practise pharmacy should have a greater share in its regulation. Here he touches the weak spot of French pharmacy. The system of purely scientific theoretical training at the school of pharmacy was doubtless sound enough in those days when the preliminary three years' "stage" necessitated the personal acquaintance of the apprentice with the compounding of drugs. But nowadays, when the apprentice passes his three years behind the counter selling made-up packets of drugs (if, indeed, he ever really spends the major part of the time in the pharmacy at all), he goes to the school and leaves it ignorant of much of the most important part of his profession. A second point on which M. Pontier also duly insists is self-help and self-government. If pharmacists were thoroughly united in syndicates and associations, much might be done by them to check many abuses. Some system by which pharmacists in business could be consulted on professional questions might also be devised. The French "vets," M. Pontier states, enjoy this privilege, and have thereby gained a much higher professional standing.

The illustrations to the volume, though not numerous, are well chosen and interesting; the arms of the old Paris Apothecaries' Corporation, the title-pages of the "Manipulus Miropoles" (1561), and J. de Renou's pharmaceutical works, and a couple of reproductions of the theses of pharmacy sustained before the Paris apothecaries, are reproduced from the originals, if I mistake not, in the library of the Paris School of Pharmacy. One of these, dated 1703, bears the formula of "King Charles [II. of England] Drops," as follows:—

GUTTE ANGLICE REGIE.

B Spiritus volatiles serici crudi ... ʒiij.  
Olei essentielles lavandulæ cinna-  
moni aut alterius cujuslibet ... ʒj.

Misceantur et distillantur. Simul in vase vitreo ut artes est.

The other two medicaments which figure on the same sheet are diascordium and pulvis comitissæ kanth, the latter containing stag-horns and "Lapid Bezoardici Orientalis." I may explain that M. Pontier has been engaged on his book since 1889. He was formerly Vice-President of the General Association of French Pharmacists, but retired from business a few years ago.

IN A DRUG-STORE OUT WEST.—Enter Coloured Lady: "Mister, please gi'me 2c. worth powder." Druggist: "Gunpowder, face-powder, or tooth-powder?" Coloured Lady: "Wat I want with tooth-powder, gunpowder, or face-powder? 2c. worth insect-powder." Druggist: "I can't walk across to the other side of the store and wrap 2c. worth of insect-powder." Coloured Lady: "Who ask'd yo' to wrap it up? Just po' it down m' back."



## Australian Letter.

Melbourne, May 2.

THE REGISTERED PHARMACISTS' SOCIETY of New South Wales has elected Mr. J. R. Willows as President, and Mr. R. T. Bellemey, who has certainly proved himself exceedingly energetic, has been re-elected Hon. Secretary.

THE VICTORIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY has re-elected Mr. William Witt, J.P., their President. Mr. E. T. Church (another of the younger generation of pharmacists) was nominated for the position, but withdrew.

THE TENDENCY TO SOCIAL ENJOYMENT has evidently increased among pharmacists during the past few years. Nearly every colony has witnessed one or more social functions during the year. The latest is a social meeting of the Western Australian pharmacists at Perth, when a large number of men in business, and representatives of the wholesale houses, were present. The leading spirit of the Society in Western Australia is Mr. Alfred E. Webster, the Secretary and Registrar.

A CHEMISTS' CRICKET CLUB has been in existence in Melbourne throughout the year, and the averages for the season have just been published. The club played twenty-two matches, won eleven, lost three, while eight were drawn. The players numbered twenty-six, all but one being drawn from the ranks of assistants. The captain reports that the ground where the majority of the matches were played became on Wednesday afternoons an acknowledged resort for at least the younger chemists, whether cricket-loving or not, and some very pleasant afternoons were passed, the merriest and most notable of all being the occasion of the annual match, "College of Pharmacy, Past v. Present."

DEFENCE-FUND.—The New South Wales Pharmaceutical Society has set apart 50% as a nucleus for a defence-fund, to be increased by a yearly vote of 10% until 100% is in hand. This sum is to be kept permanently standing by yearly votes in case it should be called upon. Any member of the Society who has been connected with it for two years will be supported in the defence of any action which is considered by the solicitors to be one of blackmail, and not due to the defendant's fault. It cannot be said that actions of this kind have been frequent, but still they have occurred sufficiently often (and in one case to a member of the Council) to create a feeling in favour of such a fund.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL MONTH has not been very eventful. The Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales appointed its officers for the coming year at the first meeting of the Council after the annual meeting. Mr. Llewellyn P. Williams, who has been President for three years, and has piloted the Society through difficult times, has resigned, and his place is taken by Mr. C. A. Marshall. Mr. Marshall has been connected with the Society for the past twelve years, and has served it as a member of the Council for several years. He has had the whole of his training in New South Wales, and is one of the younger members of the craft. He is spoken of by his fellow-councillors as an energetic man.

PROPRIETARY-MEDICINE ADVERTISEMENTS.—In several of the colonies Acts have come into force on the lines of the Indecent Advertisements Act. New Zealand possesses one of the earliest to come into operation, it having been passed in 1892, but up to the present little or no action has been taken under it. As mentioned last month, a chemist in Wellington, New Zealand, sold a bottle of Clarke's E41 pills, and round the bottle outside the ordinary sealed wrapper was a handbill of the vendor's, in which he set out the merits of pills and mixtures of his own for the same complaints. The Stipendiary Magistrate was surprised to learn, from the evidence of the defendant and two other leading chemists, that it was not customary to open the packets of a proprietary medicine, and that they were not aware before the action that the packet contained the pamphlets complained of. Judgment was given some days later, in which the Judge stated that he was satisfied that the defendant's own leaflet was intended to relate to the diseases referred to in the statute, and, when taken in conjunction with the printed matter in the packet, was, beyond doubt, a breach of the Act. But for the additional leaflet the defendant's plea of ignorance might possibly have been accepted.

## American Notes.

(By a New York Correspondent.)

THE COMPOSITION OF INKS.—The closing days of the famous Molineux trial were rendered interesting by a sharp controversy between two handwriting-experts relative to the composition of the ink used in a communication which formed one of the exhibits in the case. One expert declared the ink to be a "tanno-gallic ink with a blue colouring," while another held that it was a "sulphindyl ink." No amount of examination and cross-examination could induce either expert to budge from his position, in spite of the fact that both were witnesses for the State.

FLOATING LIQUID AIR.—The country is flooded by advertisements issued by a company, of which Mr. Charles Tripler is president, offering stock for sale in the Tripler Liquid Air Company. The company promise large returns "in the future," and claim to have machinery and patents for utilising the fluid for surgical purposes, automobiles, and engines. The use of Mr. Hudson Maxim's name in connection with their claims drew from that gentleman a sharp rejoinder that he had nothing to do with the company, and did not believe in their claims. The company offer 100,000 shares at \$5 a share, and the work of the company is at present confined to spectacular lectures and demonstrations.

NEW YORKER DEUTSCHE APOTHEKER VEREIN.—This organisation, composed solely of German druggists, and whose proceedings are conducted in the German tongue, is feeling the necessity of doing something to mitigate the criticisms which are being levelled at it for its exclusiveness. It is proposed to drop the word "German" from the name, and to let down the bars governing membership a little, so as to admit a few natives of the "land of the free." This is highly distasteful to the ultra-Teutonic element, but now that power is given to this organisation to name one of the members of the State Board of Pharmacy the necessity for taking a wider view of things is becoming imperative. Probably this is the only instance in history where power was given to a body of men not citizens of a country to assist in the execution of the laws of that country.

PHARMACY PROFESSORS AND SPECIALISTS are being attracted to commercial ventures, more and more. Mr. Joseph W. England, formerly chief druggist of the Philadelphia Hospital and Almshouse of the Department of Charities and Corrections of Philadelphia, has become director of the pharmaceutical laboratories of H. K. Mulford Company, of Philadelphia. Mr. England has been a strenuous advocate of the ethical in pharmacy, and is a leading man in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Professor Frank G. Ryan of the same college has joined Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s staff at Detroit, Mich. Professor Ryan was assistant to Professor Jos. P. Remington until a year ago, when he was elected to take charge of the newly-created department of the college to give a course in commercial training. Professor Ryan is well known to members of the American Pharmaceutical Association, and at the recent meeting in Richmond terminated a year of service as Chairman of the Scientific Section.

ALCOHOL "REBATES."—A number of manufacturing firms are at present actively engaged in a raid on the U.S. Treasury. In the Wilson Tariff Bill a clause was inserted allowing a rebate of the revenue tax on alcohol used in the Arts upon the issuance of regulations by the Secretary of the Treasury. Secretary Carlisle did not issue the regulations, owing to the impossibility of framing them satisfactorily without entailing very heavy expense, and the Courts have held that as the regulations were not issued, no rebate could be collected. Now manufacturers claim to have sustained heavy losses by selling manufactured articles in which alcohol was used below the cost of the tax-paid article. They have therefore had a Bill introduced into Congress allowing these claims, which aggregate some ten million dollars. Mr. J. C. Eliel, a wholesale druggist of Minneapolis, who will collect some \$2,500 if the Bill passes, denounces the Bill. He says that manufacturers did not reduce prices, but steadily maintained them, and that they are not entitled to the rebate.



## Colonial and Foreign News.

AMONGST the articles exported from Pondicherry during 1899 were 118 bags of areca-nuts, 17 barrels of castor oil, 89 bags of saffron, and 718 bales of tamarinds.

THE SALE OF MORPHINE.—At Leipsic recently a medical student was sentenced to ten days' imprisonment and one week's arrest for obtaining morphine by making out prescriptions under different names.

It is reported that on the cardamom-hills of Travancore several European planters are trying experimentally the cultivation of new products, such as castilloa, rubber, camphor, jalap, &c. Rules were passed last year for giving land for such cultivation on favourable terms.

IMPORTATION OF SPIRITS INTO INDIA.—An order has just been issued by the Madras Board of Revenue restricting the importation of English rectified spirits to 10 gals. per individual licensee. This order is regarded by wine-merchants generally as a great hardship, and a petition has been addressed to the Board, praying that its decision may be rescinded.

THE IMPOSSIBLE TURK wishes to draw money from doctors' prescriptions. The Government is at present considering a proposal to sell to every civil or military doctor prescription-books for 10f. each. This would yield a revenue of three to four hundred thousand piastres, and would, it is conjectured, prevent illicit practising, as the book would state name and number of the diploma of the holder. The same project was rejected some years ago.

THE INTERNATIONAL PHARMACOPEIA.—The Belgian Government appears to have addressed all foreign countries in regard to the international Pharmacopœia. The action of France and Great Britain we have already noted. Now the Swedish Medical Council has accepted the invitation, but has informed the Government that, as it will take a considerable time to complete, this should not interfere with the work now in hand of a new edition of the Swedish Pharmacopœia.

GUM AS FOOD.—A correspondent of the *Statesman* reports that in the Chanda forests of the Central Provinces of India there are large tracts of bamboo-trees, from which, for the first time in their history, a gummy substance has been exuding. The supply of the gum is reported to be so abundant that the famine-stricken people are making use of it as a food. A quantity of the gum has been sent to Dr. George Watt, reporter on economic products, and it is said to be a palatable resinous substance, sweet in taste, and resembling manna.

PHARMACEUTICAL WORK IN ST. PETERSBURG.—In the year 1898 there were in St. Petersburg sixty-eight pharmacies, three subpharmacies, and five homœopathic pharmacies. The first mentioned made up 2,316,128 prescriptions, or 191,790 more than in 1897. The total takings were 1,810,936r., making 160,077r. more than in 1897. The homœopathic pharmacies made up 98,339 prescriptions, taking 132,000r. The sixteen factories of mineral waters sent out over eight million bottles for 689,845r. The statistics for 1899 are not yet completed. It may be mentioned that great importance is laid on these very exact calculations by Russian pharmacists.

LOVE-PHILTRES IN INDIA.—Dr. Van Geyzel, the Chemical Examiner for Madras, in the course of his annual report for 1899 relates some interesting stories regarding poisoning by *Datura tatula*. In one case a man who was deeply in love with a relative, who did not reciprocate his affections, endeavoured to win her by sending her a present of cakes containing powdered datura seeds, with the apparent idea that a dose of datura would make the "faire ladye" his sweetheart. The effect, however, was otherwise. The lady shared her cakes with some of her friends, with the result that four people suffered from datura-poisoning. Evidently the idea of giving "love-philtres" to a heartless idol is still alive in India. Several other interesting cases of datura-poisoning are related. The Chemical Examiner's duties mostly concern poison cases, but lately he and his assistants have been testing samples of nitro-glycerine, which they have found a very painful task, as it has brought on unpleasant attacks of violent headache, with throbbing arteries. Dr. Van Geyzel naturally objects to such work.

## Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held at 33 York Place, Edinburgh, on June 8, Mr. David McLaren presiding.

### REPORT.

The Secretary (Mr. C. F. Henry), in submitting the annual report, referred to the death of Mr. Burley, their Treasurer. The membership was seventy-four, an increase of five over last year. It would, the committee thought, be satisfactory to the members to notice that one of the recommendations made by the Association in regard to the Companies Bill had been embodied in Clause 2 of the amended Bill. The committee trusted that the question of titles would also be satisfactorily settled before the Bill passed, and that the name of the qualified person in charge should be conspicuously posted on the shop or over the place in which the business is carried on.

The financial statement, which showed a balance in hand of 34*l.* 16*s.*, and the report were unanimously adopted.

### THE COMPANIES BILL.

The discussion of the paper read by Mr. W. S. Glass at the last meeting, on "The Companies Bill," then took place.

Mr. Glass submitted his motion on which the paper was based, which was as follows:—

No company may carry on the business of a pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist unless such business is *bona fide* conducted by a manager or assistant being a duly qualified pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, and unless the name of the person so qualified is conspicuously posted in letters easily legible in the shop or other place in which the business is carried on, and unless any name or title implying registration under the Pharmacy Acts be taken, used, or exhibited only in connection with the name of the duly qualified manager or assistant aforesaid, but, subject to this provision, anything which would be an offence under Sections 1 and 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, if committed by an individual, shall be an offence if committed by a company.

He said the position might be summarised in the question, Could company-pharmacy be stopped? In his opinion the answer was it could not, but it could be regulated by insisting on each shop being conducted by a registered chemist, and by holding the company responsible for any infringement of this provision.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Macpherson, who said he did not approve of the amendment any more than he did of the original clause itself. It asked too much, it conceded too much; it sought to prevent a company from carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist without defining what the business was, and would thus place the company, unless it complied with certain definite conditions, in a worse position than a single individual. It also approved of and would statutorily recognise vicarious qualifications which, if granted to a company, could not justly be withheld from the individual. He thought the efforts of chemists ought to be directed to having it declared to be illegal for companies composed of unqualified persons to retail poisons, and to have it enacted that the business of every company's shop should be managed by legally-qualified persons, and that they should be subject to all the provisions of the Pharmacy Acts.

Mr. G. Lunan said, as an association they were committed to the position laid down in the motion by Mr. Glas.

On being put to the meeting the resolution was unanimously adopted, and it was resolved to send copies to the members of Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, the Lord Chancellor, the Secretary for Scotland, and to the members of Parliament for the city of Edinburgh and other places included in the district covered by the Association.

### ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

The election of office-bearers resulted in Mr. George Lunan being elected Chairman, Mr. C. F. Henry was re-elected Secretary, and Mr. Macdougall Assistant Secretary. Mr. R. L. Hendry is Treasurer, and the Council consists of Messrs. Brindle, Boa, Bowman, Baker, Davidson, Dewar, McGlashan, Macpherson, Smith, F. Stephenson, and Swan.



## Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

### COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE Council met on Wednesday, June 6, at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 o'clock. Present: Messrs George D. Beggs (President) in the chair, J. J. Bernard (Vice-President), Grindley (Treasurer), Wells, Montgomery (Belfast), Kelly, and Simpson.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. George Brown was co-opted a member of the Council in the room of Mr. Michie, resigned.

### THE LATE MR. DOWNES.

Miss S. Downes wrote gratefully acknowledging the Council's sympathy; also the appreciation shown by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

The REGISTRAR also read a letter from Mr. Richard Brembridge, Secretary of the latter Society, conveying a copy of the resolution passed by the Council at the May meeting in regard to Mr. Downes's death.

The PRESIDENT remarked that it was very gratifying to get such a letter from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

The Registrar was directed to reply stating that the Council thoroughly appreciated the kindness of the Society.

### OTHER CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from the Privy Council of Ireland enclosed their order approving of the appointment of Mr. James Michie, M.P.S.I., as one of the Society's examiners.

A letter from Mr. Joseph Donnelly, solicitor, of Belfast, forwarded 3*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, being the Society's share of a fine imposed on James Hogg, jun., of Hogg & Co. (Limited), Belfast, for compounding without being qualified to do so. The letter also reported that two fines of 5*l.* each had been imposed on Mr. William James Gibson, chemist and druggist, of 71 and 73 King Street, Belfast, for illegal compounding; but that the presiding Justice had recommended Mr. Gibson to memorialise the Lord-Lieutenant for the remission of one penalty or a portion of it. The following letter from Mr. Gibson was also read by the REGISTRAR:—

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to inform you that I have forwarded a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant regarding the case which you had against me some weeks ago for shop known as "Malson & Co., Sandy Row." I feel satisfied, had you been fully aware of the facts of the case, you would not have instructed the prosecution to be issued against me, but hope that when the matter will be brought before you you will give it your favourable consideration. Thanking you in anticipation,

I remain, yours truly,  
W. J. GIBSON.

The REGISTRAR was directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Gibson's letter, and to request him to furnish the facts.

Donations were received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria of a copy of their report for 1899; from the Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden of a copy of his eleventh report, 1900; and from the Director of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories of copies of three pamphlets.

Thanks were voted to the donors.

### THE DRUGGISTS' EXAMINATION.

The PRESIDENT moved, pursuant to notice, that the regulations for the examination for licence as a registered druggist be amended by the addition of the following words:—

Candidates presenting themselves for this examination must be 21 years of age.

Mr. GRINDLEY seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

### ELECTIONS.

Mr. John McGrotty, of Ennistymon, and Mr. George Robinson, of New Ross, were elected members of the Society, and Mr. James Pollard, of Callan, an associate druggist.

Other business having been disposed of, the Council adjourned.

## Chemical Society.

WHEN the President (Dr. T. E. Thorpe) took the chair on Thursday evening, June 7, it was remarked that he looked well, thanks to the Algerian sun, whose spectroscopy under eclipse he has been studying; and after the preliminary business on the agenda had been disposed of, the senior Secretary (Professor Wyndham Dunstan), on behalf of the Fellows, congratulated him on the honour (a C.B.) which her Majesty has recently bestowed upon him—"all the more gratifying to the Fellows," said the Imperial Institute Professor, "that it has been bestowed during Dr. Thorpe's period of office as President of the Society." This compliment the President blushing, and with smiles, acknowledged, expressing surprise that the Fellows should have taken notice of it, especially as they had a very long programme of fourteen papers to get through. He then called upon

### DR. S. RUHEMANN, OF CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY,

to communicate two papers. The first of these was on the condensation of ethyl-acetylene dicarboxylate with bases of the *beta*-ketonic series, and was remarkable as a piece of synthesis which resulted in the production of a fine red dye. In a previous paper, Dr. Ruhemann and Mr. H. E. Stapleton indicated that acetic acid should exist in two stereoisomeric forms. From this point they now proceeded, first by studying the changes effected on chlorofumaric ethyl ester by aceto-acetic and benzoyl-acetic esters, and it was found that the products are the same as those obtained by the action of the reagents upon ethyl-acetylene dicarboxylate. The behaviour of the last-mentioned substance towards guanidine and benzamidine was next described, and it was here that the interest of the communication began to tell, for while the guanidine yields a cyclic compound, benzamidine gives a body closely resembling indigo and pyrozele blue in composition; it is in ruby-red crystals, and the discoverers call it glyoxaline red ( $C_{18}H_{12}N_4O_2$ ). Treated with glacial acetic acid, it takes in a molecule of water and becomes yellow; the solution of this yellow in potash gradually returns to the reddish-violet colour of the original substance. Dr. Ruhemann's second paper (in which Mr. F. Beddow was associated with him) was on the condensation of phenols, ethyl phenyl propionate. The authors find that sodium phenolates readily combine with the propionate, with the production of a *beta*-hydroxy cinnamate, and ortho and para cresols, and alpha and beta naphthols behave similarly, corresponding cinnamates resulting.

No one ventured to discuss these papers, so the President called upon Dr. H. A. D. Jowett, of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratory, to communicate the next, which was on

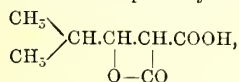
### THE CONSTITUTION OF PILOCARPINE.

It will be remembered that previous observations by this author have disproved the accuracy of Hardy and Gallois's observations as to the alkaloidal constituents of jaborandi, and he has shown that the only alkaloids in the drug are pilocarpine and an isomer of it called isopilocarpine. Further, as noted in the *C. & D.* last week, two German chemists, Pinner and Kohlhammer, have recently taken up the same line of research—a practice which is felt at Burlington House to be far too common and unfair; in the present case it compelled the author to communicate results before he had reached the conclusion of his work. As previous experiments had shown isopilocarpine to be the more stable of the two isomeric alkaloids it was used in the experiments. By fusion with potash ammonia and methylamine are formed, also isobutyric acid, which was proved by analysis of the crystalline silver salt, boiling-point, immiscibility with water, and solubility of the calcium salt. Other acids are yielded in the fusion, which form silver salts that are easily reduced, but the quantity obtained was too small to admit of identification. The results were, however, sufficient to show that isopilocarpine must therefore contain the group  $(CH_3)_2CH.CH$ . By distillation with soda-lime, ammonia, methylamine, and traces of a methylpyridine are formed. The production of small quantities of a pyridine base by dis-



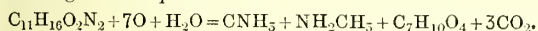
tillation of a nitrogenous compound with soda-lime does not, however, afford much clue to the constitution of the compound. By treatment of isopilocarpine methiodide with silver hydroxide, isopilocarpine methyl hydroxide is formed, which on heating with acids loses water and yields methyl-isopilocarpine. This new base yields a crystalline picrate and platinichloride. Subsequent treatment with methyl iodide forms a methiodide which on decomposition, however, yields the original base methylisopilocarpine. Methylisopilocarpine methiodide heated with potash in a sealed tube yields methylamine only. These reactions prove that isopilocarpine contains the groups  $\text{NCH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}$ , also that it is to the latter group that the basic character of the alkaloid is due. On oxidation with potassium permanganate isopilocarpine yields, in addition to ammonia and methylamine, acetic acid and a new acid having the formula  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$ . This acid is a lactonic acid, and is a thick straw-coloured liquid (like honey), with a peculiar smell, boiling at  $210^\circ\text{--}220^\circ$  under 10 mm. pressure. An attempt was made to determine the constitution of the acid by the following method:—

The ethyl ester was heated with phosphorus pentabromide and then treated with alcohol, whereby the diethyl-brom ester was produced. This was then debrominated by heating with diethyl aniline, and the resulting diethyl ester of the unsaturated acid hydrolysed, and the acid oxidised, first with cold permanganate, and then with chromic acid, when isobutyric acid was obtained. From this fact, and the production of this acid by fusion with potash, the formula of the acid is probably—



being the  $\beta$ -lactone of isobutyl-malonic acid.

Isopilocarpine is best oxidised with six molecular proportions of permanganate, and the reaction seems to proceed according to the equation—



The acid  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$  is still under investigation, and other experiments on the constitution of the alkaloid are in progress.

Dr. Jowett remarked upon the expensive nature of the material he had had to work with, and the consequent difficulty of using large quantities, so that the results must necessarily be slow.

His conclusion as to the non-production of acetone in the oxidation of the lactonic acid was questioned, but he replied that he had looked for it very carefully with phenyl hydrazine. The President thought the communication a particularly valuable piece of work, and said so.

#### OTHER PAPERS.

After Dr. Orton had communicated a note by Dr. Chattaway, Mr. Hartley, and himself on nitrogen chlorides derivable from meta-chloroacetanilide, Dr. Martin Lowry gave the gist of a paper on persulphuric acid, which was an attempt, as much algebraic as experimental, to extend Berthelot's observations on the action of hydrogen peroxide on sulphuric acid. Berthelot concluded from analysis of persulphuric anhydride,  $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ , that the acid has the formula  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ . The present authors find peroxidation of sulphuric acid is effected almost entirely within the limits  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and their results indicate that  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_{11}$  are chiefly formed, the latter especially, as the concentration of the acid increases. Dr. Lapworth questioned the correction of these conclusions, as Dr. Lowry's equations did not balance.

Among other papers on the list, but which were not read, we noticed "Derivatives of Cyanocamphor and Homocamphoric Acid," by A. Lapworth, D.Sc.; "Action of Formaldehyde on Amines of the Naphthylamine Series" (II.), by G. T. Morgan, D.Sc.; and "Condensation of Ethyl Crotonate with Ethyl Oxalate," by A. Lapworth, D.Sc.

## Society of Chemical Industry.

### LONDON SECTION.

A MEETING was held in Burlington House on Monday evening, June 11, Dr. Otto Hehner presiding. After the minutes were read, the Chairman extended a welcome to Dr. Mutterick, a member of the New York Section of the Society. Mr. Thomas Tyrer was then called upon to give some particulars regarding the

### ANNUAL MEETING.

which is to be held in London in the third week in July. He mentioned that the programme had been issued, and although there were small defects in it, these would be made good in time. There had been great difficulty in obtaining permission to visit works, as manufacturers are becoming more and more averse to receiving visitors. (Hear, hear.) In consequence of the hospitality extended to him and Dr. Mond, the foreign Secretary of the Society, by the American members of the Society in New York in 1896, he was particularly anxious that their American visitors on this occasion should be well entertained. The President (Professor Chandler) will arrive in London on June 27, and he will be in the country for a month. It is proposed that he should get a jovial welcome, and the Industry Club is arranging an entertainment in his honour. This is entirely independent of the annual meeting. Referring to the International Congress in Paris, and the arrangements which had been made, Mr. Tyrer stated that at the Industry Club dinner that evening Mr. Parry, Chairman of Gaze's, had been present as a guest, and had stated that everything that could be done would be done to make the visitors comfortable. Mr. Tyrer wished to impress upon the members that all the arrangements that Gaze's are making are of the most splendid character. He had been to Paris, and had visited all the hotels and every room, and he could assure the members on his personal honour that, although the inclusive charges were fixed at a very low figure, everything done would be of the best possible character, and he was assured that this Paris meeting would be a huge success. Mr. Tyrer concluded by moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Boverton Redwood for his conduct as Chairman of the Section during the past two years, which motion was seconded by Dr. Hehner and agreed to. Mr. W. J. Dibden was then called upon to read his

### SEWAGE-PAPER.

The exact title of the paper was "The Maintenance of Aëration as a Standard of Purity of Sewage-effluents." The paper consisted of observations made on the River Thames at various points and at intervals during the past twenty years, together with experiments made by Mr. Dibden and his partner, Mr. Thudichum, F.C.S., in their own laboratory. There was nothing pharmaceutical about it, therefore we must dismiss it in a few lines. But there were some facts that can scarcely be omitted—for example, that the Thames between Teddington and Southend is capable of absorbing 4,000 tons of oxygen every day, and it has absorbed that quantity. At least 50 per cent. of the possible aëration must be maintained if putridity of the water is to be prevented, and the objects of the experiments were largely for the purpose of showing how this can be done by aërating sewage-effluents before turning them into the river, and the means of determining the amount of aëration and fixing standard methods were the principal object of the paper. The authors compared Schutzenberger's and Thresh's methods with one which they themselves propose and which consists substantially of drawing off the air from a measured quantity of the fluid by means of a mercury-pump and boiling. They showed that this gasometric method is best. Dr. Clowes, who opened the discussion, complimented Mr. Dibden on the excellent work which he had done on the subject. Dr. Samuel Rideal followed, and pointed out the importance of the conclusions which had been arrived at. The Chairman had also a few words to say, and then Mr. Dibden replied to several points that had been raised in the course of the discussion, stating that the whole matter had arisen from his being a member of the Sewage-standards Committee of the British Association, and of which

A SUBSCRIBER writes on May 5, 1900:—"I have a good healthy appetite and should as soon think of doing without my breakfast every morning as to do without THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST coming in regularly once a week as long as I am in the business, for I have had it now without interruption for the past thirty years." (76/54.)



Dr. Ridcal is the Secretary. He agreed with Dr. Clowes that the point that sewage-chemists had to aim at was to produce a degree of aëration in effluents that would provide a liquid in which fish could live.

Dr. F. B. Power, Director of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, then communicated a paper by himself and Mr. Frank Shedden, B.Sc., on

#### CERIUM OXALATE.

The paper was an eye-opener in some respects, for it revealed the fact that commercial cerium oxalates answering the B.P. description consist largely of the oxalates of lanthanum and didymium. We are, however, anticipating. The first part of the paper dealt with the introduction of cerium salts into medicine, and their use in the arts. Latterly, the minerals containing cerium have been much used in the manufacture of gas-mantles, because they contain thorium. The earths have hitherto been obtained chiefly from cerite, got from Sweden, and thorianite, from the same region; but latterly monazite, which is found in North Carolina, and chiefly in Bahia, Brazil, has yielded most of the earth for the gas-mantles. This contains, on an average, 50 to 60 per cent. of cerite earths, half of the content being cerium, with about 5 to 6 per cent. thorium. The authors then took up the consideration of methods that had been suggested for separating the different constituents of these earths, and examples were given of these processes, and of the meagre information that exists in text-books, including the Pharmacopœias. Referring to the formula for the oxalate, they said that the 1885 B.P. formula,  $\text{Ce}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , was obviously wrong, seeing that the cerium was there regarded as bivalent in the cerous compounds; and it had been corrected in the present edition to  $\text{Ce}_2(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , which had already been adopted by other Pharmacopœias. The present investigation has proved the formula to be incorrect with regard to the amount of water, which should be  $10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Different methods for estimating the amount of cerium in any compound of it were then dealt with; first, reference was made to Brauner's method, in which the cerous salt is oxidised by permanganate into a ceric compound (which is of yellow colour), and the completion of the change can be observed in alkaline solution, though not so readily in acid solutions. Another method, that of Knorr, depends upon the reduction of ceric sulphate into cerous sulphate by hydrogen peroxide. Dr. Power experimentally showed that by boiling a very weak solution of a cerium salt in sulphuric acid with ammonium persulphate the colourless solution becomes intensely yellow, like a solution of chromate. The test will detect traces of cerium in the purest oxalates of lanthanum and didymium obtainable. The authors quantitatively determined the amount of cerous oxalate in the commercial salt by boiling a known quantity of it with ammonium persulphate in sulphuric acid solution. When reaction is complete an excess of standardised ferrous-sulphate solution is added to reduce the ceric sulphate to the cerous condition again, and by measuring the unused ferrous sulphate with standardised permanganate, an index to the amount of cerous salt originally present is obtained.

In the experimental part of the paper the authors dealt with (1) the purest cerium oxalate obtainable from Germany, which is a perfectly white powder quite free from every other metal; (2) cerium oxalate of commerce (German); (3) cerium oxalate of commerce (English). It may be noted that ignition gives a tolerable index to the purity or otherwise of cerium oxalate. The absolutely pure salt leaves a pure yellow residue. The salts containing didymium yield, as the Pharmacopœia anticipates, a reddish-brown residue. The authors found that the whole of the water of crystallisation in the oxalate is not given off at  $130^\circ\text{C}$ . and as on complete decomposition by strong ignition the only products given off are  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , this method was therefore utilised for estimating the amount of water in the oxalate.  $10\text{H}_2\text{O}$  requires 24.87 per cent., and  $9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  requires 22.95 per cent.; the purest oxalate gave in two estimations figures averaging 25.20, and the commercial 24.76, so that  $10\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is the amount of water of crystallisation in the salt. The figures for the amount of oxide should be 47.52, and the authors found 47.21 and 47.13 in the pure and in the commercial 47.40. The determination of the cerium was made by the method already described, and they found in the pure 38.32 (the calculated amount being 38.68), but

the commercial examples yielded only 16.83 from the German and 16.27 from the English, so that the commercial samples contained really not more than 40 per cent. of cerous oxalate. Corroborative figures by other methods were given, and it was shown that the determination of the oxalic radical also gives figures agreeing with a salt containing  $10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , but while this method may be applicable to an absolutely pure salt, it is not to a commercial salt, because it is a mixture. The authors also determined the character of lanthanum oxalate in relation to the water of crystallisation, and found that it contains  $10\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and not  $9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  as previously accepted. Didymium oxalate also gave  $10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , so that the general formula for this series of oxalates is  $\text{R}_2(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

The next part of the paper dealt with the British Pharmacopœia description and characters and tests. It was noted that the description and the reference to "some lanthanum oxalate and didymium oxalate" being present in the salt gives the idea of comparative purity, whereas the salt may contain 60 per cent. of these oxalates and only 40 of cerium oxalate.

The Chairman, at the conclusion of the paper, said that he was exceedingly anxious that Mr. F. G. Welch should have the opportunity of reading his paper on the production of "Nitrate of Soda in Chili," as this was the third occasion that Mr. Welch had come from Edinburgh to read it, and he hoped that those who wished to discuss Dr. Power's paper would be as brief as possible. Mr. Peter MacEwan then said that the paper had great pharmacological interest, and it would be of importance to have the chemical results followed by pharmacological experiments, as there was no saying to which constituents of cerium oxalate the therapeutic properties were due. Mr. Horatio Ballantyne stated that he had considerable experience in the analysis of cerium, and said he had never met with a specimen so pure as the purest Dr. Power showed, and he could not imagine that it was commercial. He had found the test with potassium iodide quite satisfactory. The Chairman questioned if cerium was an element or a mixture.

Mr. Welch then gave the gist of his paper to an attenuated audience, the point of it being that perfect exhaustion of the caliché is impossible under the present system, because the pieces employed in the lixiviation process are too large.

#### NEW YORK SECTION.

The sessions of this Section were wound up for the year on June 2 with a "smoker," which was held in the rooms of the German Liederkrantz. Mr. James Hartford had charge of the arrangements, and provided an excellent vaudeville show, the chief feature of which was a ventriloquial entertainment in which the classical features and characteristic behaviour of "Ally Sloper" were prominent. Mr. Sloper "did himself proud," although he himself was personally unknown to the greater portion of the audience. About 200 members were present, and the Chairman of the Section (Mr. Thos. J. Parker) presided. The entertainment concluded after the German fashion, with a luncheon at which only German dishes were served. These included various kinds of "wurst" salads, sauerkraut, and the festive Limburger, to which distance lends enchantment. The only beverage permitted was beer, and the whole concluded with songs rendered by the audience. These were composed for the occasion and contained more chemistry than poetry, but were set to popular airs. Announcement of the annual meeting in London was made, and a party is being made up to attend the meeting, which will be presided over by Dr. C. F. Chandler, of Columbia University, New York.

**THE EXAMINATION OF URINE.**—Some U.S.A. insurance companies have bright examiners in the country districts. One of them wrote to the Home Office recently, "What is to be the specific gravity of the urine for 1900?" Another was asked how he determined the reaction of the urine. "By testing it," was the reply. "How do you tell when the urine contains sugar?" was the next question. The examiner hesitated, but finally said: "Well, I put a little urine in a shallow dish in the sun, and after a while it evaporates somewhat, and then if the ants and flies come around and feed upon it, I know it is sweet; and if it is sweet, I know it must contain sugar, and if it contains sugar the man must have diabetes; and then I turn him down."



## War Notes.

**TRANSVAAL AND O.R.C. SUBSCRIBERS.**—Any subscribers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* whose places of business were in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, and who have not received their copies since the war broke out, are requested to send their names and addresses to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We have reserved their copies of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* and copies of the *DIARY*, and these we shall send to them as soon as they inform us of their addresses.

**MR. A. CHRISTIE SMART**, son of Dr. Andrew Smart, of Rutland Square, Edinburgh, is acting as compounder at the Edinburgh and East of Scotland Field Forces' Hospital, Norval's Pont.

**A BLOEMFONTEIN CHEMIST** was wounded at the battle of Graspan. He was with the Boer Red Cross, and amongst other Boer wounded was taken to the British field-hospital. A company of the Scots Guards were told to bring in the Boer wounded, and their kindness so affected this chemist that, when they arrived at Bloemfontein several months later, he sought them out and made them many presents. So a soldier writes home to his folks.

**REOPENING OF THE RAND.**—The Colonial Office learns by telegram from Sir A. Milner, dated June 8, that the Chamber of Mines, whose headquarters is at Cape Town, have agreed upon 580 representatives of 131 leading mining and other companies, who will proceed to Johannesburg as soon as Lord Roberts states that it is possible to receive them. As many banking and other commercial representatives as possible will accompany them. Sir A. Milner states that he is doing all that is possible to facilitate the reopening of business, but is obliged to discourage the desire on the part of Uitlanders to return, as military exigencies will continue for some weeks to control the situation.

**TRANSVAAL CHEMIST'S EXPERIENCES.**—We mentioned in our issue of January 13, page 43, that a chemist had been badly ill-treated because he had snapshotted some Boer women at Roodeport whilst they were looting the shops of Britishers who had been put over the Border. This gentleman is Mr. W. White, chemist and druggist, of Roodeport. The *Natal Witness* of May 12 states that on leaving Natal Mr. White placed his assistant, Mr. W. Young, in charge. The assistant reports that shortly afterwards the Field-Cornet of the district announced in the Dutch church at Roodeport that the chemist's shop would be opened as a Government Dispensary on the following day. Mr. Young did not hear the announcement, and took a holiday on that day. He was surprised on returning in the evening to find the shop lighted up and business being carried on. The back window had been forced open, and an entrance obtained by the qualified chemist who had been appointed by the local authorities. Mr. Young went to Johannesburg and reported the matter to the Commandant there, who gave him authority to reoccupy the premises. He therefore went back to Roodeport, and resumed business in the ordinary way, and made an attempt to recover 132% owing to the business by the Government. For this purpose he had to go to the headquarters at Pretoria. Whilst he was away this time the local authorities got an order issued giving him forty-eight hours notice to cross the Border of the Republic, and he had to leave at once, arriving at Delagoa Bay with fifty other refugees. Before leaving he appointed a Dutchman, who is a qualified chemist, to carry on the business, and in all probability he will be left in quiet.

**A LETTER FROM WEPENER.**—Private Vigis, of the Cape Mounted Rifles, in a letter (published in the *Bath Journal*) to his father, Mr. Lewis Vigis, chemist and druggist, of Chapel Row, Bath, describes the siege of Wepener when it was held by the Colonial troops under Colonel Dalgety, of Brabant's column. He says the rifle-fire was awful, as there were 8,000 Boers and only 1,700 British, who had to cover a frontage of six miles. The Boers had sixteen guns to eight British. On April 1, during the progress of the battle, an ammunition-cart belonging to the British was taken right in

the line of fire. Private Vigis thus describes how the ammunition was obtained for the firing-line:—

How we got out the box of ammunition to each man—we being right in the line of fire—I shall never know. One after another of us fell and then my turn came; it was awful. I really thought I was killed, because the bullet hit the wind out of me. I fell right on my face and kicked like blazes. I thought it was all over with me, but the relief was so great after running the gauntlet with the bullets that I did not seem to care. I broke out in a tremendous perspiration and immediately wanted water; it was 8 a.m. I had dropped right in the line of fire just behind the trenches, and all the shots that missed the trenches came on me; why I was not hit in forty places I shall never know. The bullets were hitting the stones all round me, and the explosive ones were terrible. A shrapnel-shell burst over me and the bullets came all round me. I really don't think I was born to be shot. All this time the sun got hotter and hotter; then my misery began, with thirst and flies. I shall never forget it; besides which I was lying on my face and could not move, and the unusual position made my arms go to sleep. I was all by myself. I stood it till about 1 o'clock, and then I lost my head and began shouting for water; I seemed to see some just by me, but could not get it (of course there was none there). If I could have crawled to it I should have been shot. I thought the sun never would go down. At last, just after dark, the bearers brought some round; it seemed only a mouthful, but, oh! the sweetness of it. After having it I began to shiver with the cold. They carried me away. I was not put into the cart with the rest, as I was too bad. They carried me all the way, and then the awful pain of being dressed: it was dreadful, because they had to sit me up. I was very pleased to learn the bullet came out under my arm: the doctors cannot understand how it missed my heart. All the doctors have had a look at it. The shot went right through the lung on the side that I had inflammation. They gave me morphia to send me to sleep, but it took no effect. The only thing I did all night was to drink.

Mr. Vigis is now a convalescent patient in the Mafeteng Hospital, Basutoland.

## Oil of Lime-flowers.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S.

**THROUGH** the courtesy of a correspondent in Messina, I have obtained a small quantity of the essential oil distilled from the flowers of *Citrus Limetta*, an oil analogous to true neroli oil. It is of a pale-yellow colour, with the characteristic odour of neroli oil, but not nearly so powerful. Its sp. gr. was 0.870, and its optical rotation + 21° 30'. By shaking with dilute hydrochloric acid, separating the aqueous liquid, rendering it alkaline, and extracting with ether, an intensely fluorescent solution was obtained, which, on allowing the solvent to evaporate spontaneously, deposited a small quantity of an oil. This deposited oil on dilution with alcohol had the characteristic and powerful odour of neroli. The acid yielded by this oil on saponification melted at 138° C. The oil is therefore methyl anthranilate, which has now been identified in oil of neroli (Schimmel and Erdmann), oil of jasmin (Hesse and Müller), oil of orange (Parry and Schimmel), and oil of lime-flowers (Parry).

The quantity of oil at my disposal was too small for a complete examination, but on distillation a small fraction came over at 195° to 200°, which had a sp. gr. 0.874 and a strong odour of linalol. On acetylation it yielded linalyl acetate, of sp. gr. 0.913. Small quantities of methyl anthranilate also exist in petitgrain oil, and I have found traces of it in a sample of lemon oil; but whether it is a constituent of this oil I am not yet able to say.

**FULLERS' EARTH FIND.**—There has been great excitement lately at Tallahassee, Fla., over a valuable find of a very pure vein of fullers' earth on Ocklocknee river. It is said, by experts who have examined it closely, to be 100 per cent. pure. The vein is 9 feet thick, 150 feet wide, and 250 feet long.

## At the Queen's Ball.

By THE IRRESPONSIBLE CYNIC.

GOING down the steps on the opening day of the Exhibition the first words to greet me were "Ha, da sind Sie wieder. I say, have you got a cigarette?" Guess who uttered them. Having made the appropriate response to my questioner, I wended my way to my space in its customary corner, and devoted myself to rigging up my little exhibit of galeucals, surgical instruments, dressings, and so forth. Anon came the stream of visitors. Every type of med. ore could imagine. Stiff and spotless South Kensington reeds, with their moneyed wives; immaculate meds, who had taken up the profession because you "must do something if you don't smoke"; meds. that treat one's efforts in modern pharmacy as "all very nice and very pretty, don'tcher know," and walk away wearing a sickly sardonic smile. Then there is the scientific, deep-thinking, patronising Harley Street med., author of many books, living in luxury and no longer practising. And just occasionally—the one bright spot in a sea of cynicism and conceit—the middle-aged, kindly-faced, hard-working man, who will admire and note without some inane remark such as "Yes; it's wonderful how things are goin' on."

Further amongst the visitors one need but mention the droves of nurses, the sprinkling of students, and finally the large percentage of shop-assistants, servant-girls, butlers, grooms, and other beings whose business at a medical, surgical, and hygienic exhibition might be questioned.

A doctor comes up. "Ah yes; a nice lot of things. Send me samples of all you've got. That's my address—Buenos Ayres—sailing on Saturday. Send them direct. Thanks. Good day." "Good day, sir; thank you" (or another word to similar effect).

A second doctor strolls round. He is polite enough to mention, shortly after one's *repertoire* in the drug line has commenced, that he is a surgeon, so the tune has to be altered. "Oh, yes, sir—surgical," and one unwinds again the same old a tisleptic dressing. The surgical harangue concluded, the visitor remarks, "Send on samples, will you? Anything in the surgical way, you know—syringes, aprons, catgut, anything—but bar drugs. Good-day to you." "Good day to you."

The day wears on. In the evening arrive the old ladies with their bags for pamphlets and anything that is to be given away. Some young ladies, too, who have been shopping, bring in their reticules, which are strangely empty. And now man, woman, and child, one and all, wear the anxious expectant look so characteristic of the sample fever.

When things are slack I occasionally take a look round to gain tips from other exhibitors, and the first is an hygienic-teapot vendor, of refreshing and sportive appearance. Then there is one of the several typewriter-manufacturers. Next one comes to the a remic or diabetic food man. He is the king of all exhibitors. He it was that entirely appropriated the diabetic biscuit for successful gagging.

Let us observe his methods. A well-known medical man comes round, unknown, of course, to him. He extends a dish of brown powder, and, in a shrill, law-court voice, remarks:

"Have you tried our specialities? We have plenty of novelties! A new food for *anæmia*—the *only* food for *anæmia*, containing *iron* in a form which can be easily assimilated by a *child* or the *weakest* patient."

The accent on the italicised words. The medical man most probably smiles and passes on.

Two or three ladies arrive, and it almost invariably happens that each has a friend who would be benefited, or a child who certainly *must* have some of the food. Chairs are procured, and the visitors partake of a substantial meal of the products.

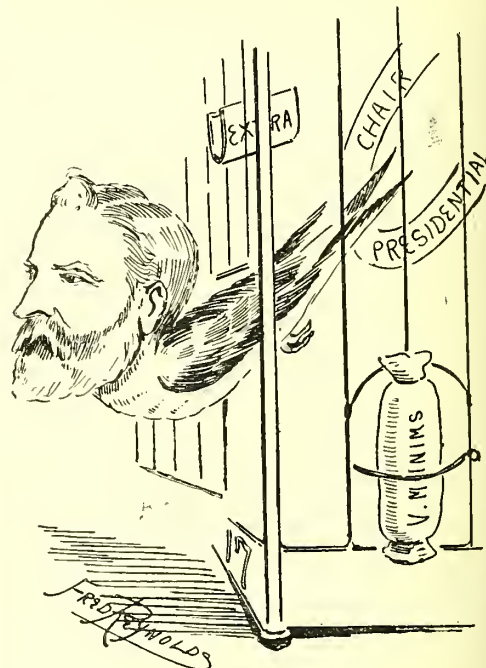
Thence one comes to some of those genial, glowing persons whom we call our cousins. They are shouting each other down—ono talks faster than any man on earth, and is as pleased as Punch that he has given away 7,000 fans.

The other one says with a drawl: "Say, d'you live home?" "Yes, of course I do; but don't worry about me, I'm in the trade." "All right, don't get rattled about it. Take along the samples—bitters for your whisky, a tonic for a jag, and an ounce of beefine for your dinner—put them in your pawket."

The further one goes, the more one gets—milk and matches; pencils and foods; periodicals and pamphlets; diaries, drugs, and disinfectants; chocolates, wines, and babies' rattles—all useful in their way.

The final day brings one to the conclusion that things certainly are "going on," but the advancement is undoubtedly mingled with degeneration. The last evening is dragging itself to a weary close, when a miserable-looking med pulls up at the stand. After a few minutes' conversation, one discovers the reason of his haggard appearance—his interest is centred entirely in the company-question as affecting both medicals and pharmacists. We discuss and argue until the last visitor has left. The lights grow dim. The watchman comes round and I draw down the dust-sheet over my little stall with ardent prayers of thanksgiving.

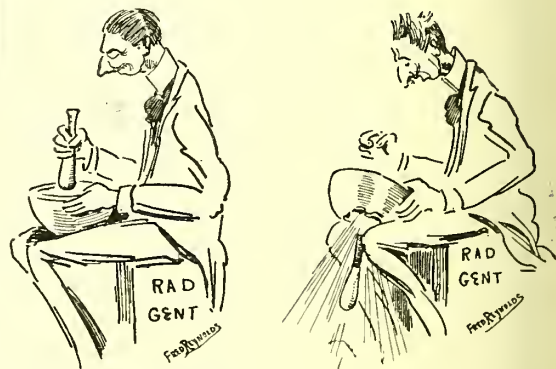
## The Pharmaceutical Aviary.



The Bookie Bird.

This bird has long been noted for its flights in the pharmaceutical atmosphere. The artist figures it as a martin winging towards the dale. It is generally on the hop to see if it can find out anything new. At one time it displayed the things it found in the central square of the aviary for the other birds to look at and admire. It now puts them in its seed-box. It is not a warbler nor as fly as the magnesia bird; nevertheless, it hopped on the magnesia bird's perch after the blackbird got tired of it. There the Lancashire sparrows fluttered round it so that it got flurried and flew far far away. It is called the bookie bird because its seed-box is shaped like a bibliophilic extra, and its chirp sounds like "my book."

The New Assistant.



Oh, yes, as I was saying, we always did things so carefully at Smith's, don't you know.

Oh!



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE DIVISION OF THE MINOR is a subject respecting which a good many thoughtful pharmacists are concerning themselves just now, and it is one which will have to be officially dealt with. So far its advocates have had all the say, and it must be admitted they have made out a strong case. But there must be another side, and experts capable of presenting it effectively. It is to one of these I should like to "give the parole" just now. I would like to hear the worst that can be said against the proposal, especially from an examiner's point of view. Piecemeal qualification is not attractive. Obviously a man certified to be competent ought to be competent all round and all over at the same time. A trainer who should prepare horses one leg at a time would not win many races. But the analogy is misleading.

EXAMINATIONS are not scientific or ideal tests of competence. The examiner on the one hand, and the candidate on the other, are anything but fixed quantities. With the best possible will on both sides to be perfectly fair, there must enter into the test something of the nature of a contest of skill. Both examiner and candidate are unconsciously aiming to mystify each other to some extent. And the combat is not a fair one. The examiner is at home, and has nothing at stake, while the candidate is among strange surroundings, and is desperately anxious about the result of the struggle. To insist on six of these duels almost without breathing-space is surely a little too severe, and it is a wonder any candidate survives it. Pending the arrival of strong argumentative reinforcements on the side of the examination arrangements now in force, I cannot help being in sympathy with the demand for a fair division of the qualifying-test.

THE TABLE OF FAILURES in last week's *C. & D.* is interesting and valuable. I do not see how it proves anything for or against the argument in favour of the division of the examination, but it certainly shows effectively how hard, I do not say unfair, have been the rather frequent changes of system on the candidates. I do not think for a moment the average quality of the candidates has varied in different years from 30 to 72 per cent., as this table would prove if the statistics regarded fixed things and not human beings on both sides. Nor do I suppose anyone can contend that there has been a steady deterioration of the candidate material for the last dozen years, which is another deduction which might be made from the figures as they stand. As a matter of fact, the apprentices of one year are very much like those of another year as a general rule. At least, that is the conclusion which I have heard expressed by men of considerable experience with them. I notice that an attempt is being made in some quarters to work in the curriculum along with any change in the method of carrying on the Minor. I confess I am also dense enough not to see the connection of this scheme with the reasons for dividing the examination.

A PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT for the Pharmaceutical Society seems to be an idea "in the air," as I write. This may, or may not, be an accomplished fact by the time these lines appear in print. If the innovation should be made, I hardly think it will be a success, no matter how able and self-sacrificing the chosen ruler may be. A provincial President will necessitate, I suppose, a London Vice-President. The latter will have to be the more active officer, while his chief will have

to take the weightier portion of the responsibility. But conservative forebodings such as these are out of harmony with the spirit of the new and inexperienced Council. We must submit, I expect, to a year of experimental iconoclasm.

MR. OGLESBY will require a lot of money to appeal against the judgment of the General Medical Council removing his name from the Dentists' Register. He cannot possibly get the decision reversed until he reaches the House of Lords, because the Court of Appeal, in the case of Partridge, in 1890 (*C. & D.*, vol. 36, page 622), established that "no action could lie for a judicial act [and it was agreed that the Medical Council was endowed with judicial authority], even though a mistake had been made, without proof of malice." And even if Mr. Oglesby were ultimately successful—which is almost impossible—it would settle nothing except as to the degree of latitude to be allowed to advertising dentists. The Medical Council has expressly refused to commit itself to a condemnation of advertising by dentists in any form. It only objects to "objectionable" advertising. So we all do; only it happens that the Council is authorised to declare what is objectionable. In this connection attention ought to be called to the "objectionable" letter which has been published in the *Times* from Dr. Hugh Woods, who amusingly describes himself as "the honourable (*sic*) general secretary of the London and Counties Medical Protection Society," and who was the virtual prosecutor of Mr. Oglesby. Dr. Woods tells the readers of the *Times* that "the General Medical Council have decided that an attempt to attract practice by means of advertisement is, in their opinion, infamous conduct in a professional respect." This is an unfair and an inexact way of putting the facts.

THE MOTHER OF PARLIAMENTS has done precious little legislative work up to Whitsuntide. Three or four formal Acts (including the Finance Act and the Census Act) have been passed, and half-a-dozen non-contentious ones are well on the way. The Commonwealth of Australia Bill will be an epoch-making statute, but it has not involved much work on this side. The Companies Bill looks like being dropped for the Session, but the Midwives Bill may very likely get through, in spite of Mr. T. P. O'Connor. Under the title of the "County Courts (Imitation of Process) Act, 1900," the Lord Chancellor has lately introduced a little Bill which will probably be adopted. He proposes to make any person liable to a 10% penalty who, with intent to deceive, shall issue one of those "penny frighteners" as the documents demanding payment of debts are popularly known, which look like official County Court papers but are not.

GALEN THE PARADOXOLOGUS and the Paradoxopœus, the wonder-speaker and the wonder-worker, is alleged to have written nearly 500 treatises, mostly on medicine, but diverging also into ethics, logic, and grammar. Less than a hundred of these generally accepted as genuine are extant, though there are a good many professed Latin translations of Galen's original Greek texts on various subjects. Dr. Kalbfleisch, of Fribourg, has lately published a hitherto unknown Greek text of a treatise on the reduction of obesity. The Latin translations of this manuscript were imperfect and were not much believed in. But the German doctor has found certain quotations which testify to the genuineness of his find, which, it may be said, was among a batch of manuscripts brought from the East fifty years ago by a German traveller whose other discoveries did not altogether satisfy scholars at the time. Scientifically Galen is nowhere by the side of our cherished Banting. Samples of his recommendations are to eat birds which are found in arid mountains and fish which frequent rocky shores, and to avoid vegetables which are round, such as beetroot and turnips. The *Lancet* hopes that some scholar will translate this Greek text into English. Is it worth while? Surely it would be an advantage if we could annihilate a few tons of this old rubbish, never mind how famous may be the names rightly or wrongly attached to it.



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## Editorial Comments.

### Wednesday's Work.

MR. NEWSHOLME has done the presidential duties so well that the experiment has been tried of electing a provincial President. This is a perfected form of the penultimate sentence in our editorial of May 19. We do not claim extraordinary prescience, but there is the fact. Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme is a lucky man; successful in business, honoured by his townsmen, respected by provincial pharmacists, he has the distinction of being the first to break through a tradition of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and that is something to be proud of. There is a danger in electing a provincial man as President and a Londoner as Vice-President, which is that the provincial may get all the glory and the Londoner all the work. Mr. Newsholme is exactly the sort of man who can avert that danger. He has won the respect of his colleagues because he has been assiduous in attention to his duties, painstaking, and willing to travel to London whenever he is required. This last feature is the one which he is now called upon to exercise to the fullest extent at his own initiative. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society is the head of it—the responsible man—and he must not hesitate to supervise the conduct of its affairs as narrowly as he would the conduct of his own business. It is, perhaps, a pity that it should be so, for a large society such as he presides over should not be dependent upon any permanent or temporary official, but should have its affairs so regulated that the administrators—that is, the councillors and members of the permanent staff under them—would conduct current business expeditiously and well. The best man for administering extensive affairs is he who is gifted with the power of wise delegation and who can get the best work from those whom he directs. That is the position which Mr. Newsholme, as a provincial President, has to fill. The first part of the proceedings at the Council on Wednesday rather indicates that another line of action is in process of evolution for him. There was a little too much prompting as to what was in order. Mr. Newsholme would do well not to handle the gag which lies so conveniently to him when he comes up to London. A President is a man of no party, and to a large extent he must suppress his own opinions, but he must allow his colleagues latitude to express theirs when the occasion is opportune. Of late there has been a tendency in the Bloomsbury Council and annual meetings to be a little too sharp on points of order, with the result that when definite motions are before the meetings, straight lines are



drawn for the speakers to keep within. This is unhealthy for a democratic body, and it is contrary to the best traditions of British debate. Bloomsbury may well take Westminster for a pattern in this matter.

The report of the Council meeting reveals another point which can scarcely escape the notice of the members of the Society. Some of the older members of the Council made suggestions in regard to the conduct of the departmental business which shows a desire and, we hope, a determination to look more clearly into the conduct of affairs. We may say without offence that there has been a little too much tendency on the part of provincial members to agree without demur to committee arrangements and the established ways of doing things; and we take the old members' suggestions as an indication that matters might be improved. Perhaps they begin to realise that they are helping to administer the affairs of a society which has lately enlarged its franchise, which has an income of something like 20,000*l.* a year to dispose of, which is one of the most important incorporated societies entrusted with statutory powers, but which still has hanging about it the atmosphere of its early-day tea-meetings. It would pay the Society to get rid of these remnants of a bygone period. There is room for more wholeheartedness in regard to the affairs of the drug-trade, and if not less attention to "the Society," at least more respect for the fact that that part of the business is strong enough to look after itself.

Although these matters are distinctly subordinate to the principal business of Wednesday, we mention them because they are apt to be forgotten. Mr. Walter Hills has, most appropriately, reopened the company question. That was inevitable as a result of the very decided vote in the recent election, but we confess to some distrust of the submissive unanimity with which Mr. Hills's resolution was passed, and this distrust is aggravated by the attempt from the chair to burke debate on the rather general motion which Mr. Hills submitted, and the terms of which were as follows:—

That the Law and Parliamentary Committee be requested to take into immediate consideration the present position of the Companies Bill, and to report as to the line of policy which appears most expedient to adopt in reference to Clauses 2 and 3 of that Bill in the present Parliamentary Session, or in the next Session should these clauses be again introduced into this or any similar Bill. Also to consider the position of pharmacy in respect to company-trading, and to suggest such action in reference thereto as may be deemed expedient.

The President, acting upon the prompting of one of his predecessors in the chair, objected to Mr. Storrar going into the general question, and naturally when Mr. Wootton, a new member who is the last person in the world to be stopped in his legitimate purpose by Bloomsbury conventionalities, began to redeem his pledge to the electors by expressing his views of what should be done about the company-question, he had to submit to a series of interruptions—alike errors in diplomacy and taste. Mr. Hills's motion was, as we have said, unanimously agreed to. Unanimously! It seems impossible, but it was so, and we take this to be an admission that the recent Council-contest result was a mandate to the elected. But it may, with equal fairness, be said that the non-committal terms of the motion secured the support of those who had previously supported an entirely different procedure. Perhaps so. But Mr. Hills added a sentence to his motion which will prevent the committee arriving at a *non possumus* conclusion. If it resolves to *do* nothing, it must, at all events, *say* something, and that will be so much gain, for the drug-trade of Great Britain, and that of Ireland—which watches the Bloomsbury proceedings as closely as those directly interested—will learn

whether the Pharmaceutical Council is prepared to handle the company-question in a statesmanlike manner, or whether the retreating movements of the past twenty years were dictated by expediency or were human efforts to avoid a fight.

## Division of the Minor.

### HOW THE MEDICAL COUNCIL EXPERTS' PRINCIPLE APPLIES.

IN referring to the Medical Preliminary examination last week we called attention to the recommendations of the educational experts regarding the subjects to be taken at more than one examination. In the Senior examinations the experts recommend that certificates be accepted even if subjects have been passed once at a time, and for all other examinations that certificates be accepted which show that the subjects have been passed at not more than two examinations. They also specify a case where a candidate takes four subjects at once in any examination, and here a specially high mark in one or two subjects should be held to compensate for a weak mark in another subject, always provided that he obtains pass-marks in English. The bearing of these recommendations on the policy of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is sufficiently obvious. Mr. Carteighe's policy (because for twenty years past Mr. Carteighe has been in examination-matters the Pharmaceutical Society) has always been, both in the Preliminary and the Minor, "pass all, or none; fail one, fail all." In the Minor, especially, in no case has a very good pass in one subject been allowed to compensate for a decided weakness in another. There is, it is true, a certain range of marks above and below the bare pass, but this is much too limited to allow any available compensation in the sense in which that term is used and recommended by the General Medical Council experts, and, therefore, we have introduced in this report two principles which are practically new so far as pharmacy is concerned.

The first principle, that of dividing the examination, or allowing the candidate to divide it for himself, is by far the more important of the two. It has been permitted in the new Preliminary-examination certificates, the concession being carried in the face of considerable "Square" opposition. It happens, however, that the principle of division in the case of the Pharmaceutical Society has been made to apply equally all round, to the easiest as well as the most difficult examinations. For example, the Junior local examinations of Edinburgh and Aberdeen Universities and the Second-class examination of the College of Preceptors are ridiculously easy; and while they all serve a useful purpose, they are far below the standard recognised by the General Medical Council and are not accepted by that body. They are, however, accepted by the Pharmaceutical Society, and they are placed in exactly the same position as really high-class Oxford and Cambridge certificates, all being treated alike.

It appears, therefore, that the Society recognises a principle in the "First" examination which, it is stated, can only be applied to the Minor by means of a new Act of Parliament. To emphasise the fact that the principle in itself is excellent, and to press home the idea that what is sauce for the Preliminary goose is sauce for the Minor gander, we may dwell on the matter further. Division of the First examination is admittedly right and proper, else how is it that all our educational authorities are unanimous in its favour? If this is so in the case of four subjects—for mathematics is held by most Boards to be one subject, with the exception of the Pharmaceutical Society, which splits it up into three—

for which boys have been preparing for years, how much more ought it to be allowed in a highly technical and exceedingly difficult examination in six or seven subjects? If it would serve any useful purpose, we might point to the medical examinations, where in the First and Second Professionals put together there are fewer subjects than are required for the Minor, while in botany, chemistry, and *materia medica* the range is much narrower. The answer to this argument is that the medical student is compelled to go through a curriculum. So does the pharmaceutical student. At present he is required to put in a three years' curriculum in learning dispensing, and in addition to that he is compelled by expediency to study for at least another year, possibly more, so that after all there is not so much to choose between medical and pharmaceutical students from that point of view. It is a matter of degree, not of kind, and this consideration is subordinate to the higher consideration, What is to become of the drug-trade of Great Britain if there is added to it the last touch of professionalism—a compulsory collegiate curriculum? The advocates of the curriculum admit that division would follow—division of the drug-trade, which is the antithesis of what the Pharmaceutical Society was founded to promote. We do not admit that the necessity for a curriculum has been demonstrated. The high proportion of failures is the only evidence of the need that is vouchsafed to us, and we have shown that this is due, in a large measure, to increments of stringency added by the authority of the Council from time to time, and to more stringent examination by the individuals of the Boards. There is a worse fault than either of these—to wit, cramming three or four years' preparation into a two days' examination. The General Medical Council's expert advisers have pointed out the folly of this sort of thing, and they say that the highest certificates and the best students are obtained by adopting a system of examination which favours education; that system is to take one subject at a time, while to compel students to pass many subjects at one time is, they say, an encouragement of cram. This is exactly what the Pharmaceutical Society has been doing in regard to the Minor examination. Students have striven to keep pace with the increased demands made upon them, and occasionally they have caught up with the examiners, so the figures show; now some relief is needful, and we submit that it is time for the Pharmaceutical Council to take up the matter seriously, and to remove by division the encouragement to cram which the modern method of examination has undesignedly fostered.

## Our Foreign Trade.

THE Board of Trade returns for May again show a marked expansion in our foreign trade, the figures being better by almost five million pounds than those of May, 1899. The official values are as follows:—

	May	January-May
Imports ... ..	£43,876,427	£213,559,770
Exports (manufactures)	24,715,930	119,481,429
Re exports ... ..	5,394,462	27,979,137
	£73,986,819	£361,020,336

The net increases for the five months of this year are 15,166,421% in imports, and 14,962,638% in exports. Goods in which the drug and chemical trades are interested increased in imports by 71,803% last month, but decreased in exports to the extent of 6,722%. For the five months ending May there is a decrease of 148,882% in the imports of our goods, but a gratifying increase of 431,309% in the exports. The exports of alkali were not maintained last month, being

356,060 cwt. (value 109,750%), compared with 360,315 cwt. (94,256%) in May, 1899. Still, for the five months the exports have been 253,529 cwt. (110,569%) better than in the same period of last year. It will be seen that although the exports of alkali were less last month, the values were higher, owing to the increased cost of raw materials, especially fuel. Sweden and Norway are the only European countries which purchased increased quantities of alkali from us in May, but that was not owing to the King being with us. Russia, France, and Germany are hopelessly slipping away from us as alkali-customers. The United States and Canada are supporting us well, so is Australasia. We contrast the figures for the first two countries for May and the five months of the past three years, and from this it will be noticed that there has been quite a revival in the alkali-trade with the United States, while Canada is also increasing her purchases from the old country. The figures represent cwt.:—

		Canada.		
		1898	1899	1900
May ... ..	...	18,001	33,824	35,522
January-May ... ..	...	59,848	63,382	82,802
		U.S.A.		
		1898	1899	1900
May ... ..	...	67,855	41,620	63,909
January-May ... ..	...	442,486	237,962	455,457

"Other countries" took 139,231 cwt. of alkali, compared with 140,753 cwt. in May, 1899. It would be difficult to assign a cause for the almost double exports to the United States, but it is an indication of increased consumption in the face of a prohibitive tariff and higher prices. Of course these U.S.A. figures are a mere shadow of those prevailing in pre-tariff days. The export of bleaching-materials was 112,604 cwt. in May, compared with 108,869 cwt. for the corresponding period of 1899. The net increase for the five months in this department was 71,682 cwt. Values have also risen in proportion, being 175,641% against 133,300% for the first five months of 1899. The United States continues to take increasing quantities of bleach, her purchases being considerably more than half of the total exports, and those for May were 8,052 cwt. better than in May, 1899. "Other countries" show a slight decline of 4,317 cwt. for the month, and 16,648 cwt. for the five months, compared with 1899. We appear to be losing our grip on the foreign trade in sulphate of copper, and we called attention to this fact three weeks ago. The United States is fast becoming a competitor for this branch of chemical industry, and has already made shipments to Italy and Spain. Our exports (in tons) are as under:—

		1898	1899	1900
May ... ..	...	6,592	7,581	5,876
January-May ... ..	...	42,987	32,362	34,019

Values have risen considerably, and this to an appreciable extent is responsible for the decreased consumption. Our trade in chemical manure has slightly fallen off in quantity, but values have increased by 37,796% for the five months of this year. The figures relating to "medicines comprising drugs and medicinal preparations" continue to expand. They are as under:—

		1898	1899	1900
		£	£	£
May ... ..	...	88,508	100,510	114,581
January-May ... ..	...	433,827	475,084	539,513

An interesting item in the returns is Peruvian bark, the imports and exports of which for the five months of this year about balance, being 23,871 cwt. and 21,096 cwt. respectively. As regards quicksilver the imports were exceptionally low, only 89,370 lbs., against 429,558 lbs. last year. The exports also decreased by 102,353 lbs.



### "A TICKLISH ARTICLE TO SELL" (page 1006).

Two very instructive cases under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act were heard in North London this week, and in one of them Mr. F. W. Beck and Mr. C. G. Moore, who appeared on behalf of the Chemists' Defence Fund, convinced the Magistrate that the conditions under which sweet spirit of nitre is sold are such that it is practically impossible for a chemist and druggist to ensure its strength. A pertinent question by the prosecution was put to the expert witness as to whether a chemist might legally sell a spirit which had lost all, or nearly all, its strength, but the Magistrate took the commonsense view of the matter, and being convinced that the retailer had used reasonable precautions in storing the spirit to prevent deterioration, he declined to convict the chemist. Mr. Beck ingeniously argued that the British Pharmacopoeia is a standard as between wholesaler and retailer, but not between the retailer and the public. That is a fresh way of putting the matter, but the Magistrate, as a wise man, left it severely alone. We expect that the case will encourage the sale of sweet spirit of nitre in small scaled bottles—the only safe way of retailing the spirit; but there is a danger of the pharmaceutical retailer losing his individuality in this method, so he should at least retain his own labels on the bottles.

### ADVERTISING BY DENTISTS.

The following is the text of the resolution which the General Medical Council is sending to all registered dentists with reference to advertising:—

That the attention of the Council having been called to the practice of advertising by certain dentists it is hereby resolved: "That the issue of advertisements of an objectionable character, and especially of such as contain either claims of superiority over other practitioners or depreciation of them, may easily be carried so far as to constitute infamous or disgraceful conduct in a professional respect."

Since we last referred to this matter we have received a report of the discussion which took place on the motion to circulate this resolution. It shows that the Council is not prepared to take action in respect to *all* advertising. Opinions were divided upon the matter; but Sir Wm. Turner, the President, reminded his fellow-Councillors that when, six years since, the resolution was passed the general opinion was that the Council could not pass a resolution forbidding all forms of advertising, and the words "of an objectionable character" were inserted to show that there was a certain class of advertising which the Council was not prepared to say was unobjectionable. Mr. Tomes said, in respect to the proposal to take out the words "of an objectionable character," that this is not an opportune time to do so; and Dr. MacAlister protested against instituting without notice "a new crime," as he considered a resolution dealing with all advertising to be. The motion to remove the words referred to was defeated, and the complete motion carried by 13 votes to 8. This puts a different complexion upon the action taken against two dentists, who appear to have suffered in order that other advertising dentists might be warned, and we gather that as long as any dentist advertises in a becoming manner he will not be interfered with.

### THE 1900 U.S.P.

The keel was laid for this work at the recent Convention in Washington. Amongst the principles which were adopted were (1) to recognise synthetical products of definite composition, but not secret compounds or mixtures; (2) to introduce adult doses of medicines in metric terms, with equivalents in ordinary weights and measures; and (3) to extend the chemical-assay processes for potent drugs and preparations. It was decided to exclude all non-medicinal articles. Otherwise the principles which are to guide the

Revision Committee are as in 1890, and these were fully explained in an interview with Dr. F. B. Power, which we published on January 27 of this year. The committee of revision consists of Dr. Charles Rice, New York; Dr. E. H. Squibb, Brooklyn; Professor J. P. Remington, Philadelphia; Professor Chas. Caspari, Baltimore; Professor W. G. Gregory, Buffalo; Dr. N. S. Davis, jun., Chicago; Professor J. M. Good, St. Louis; Professor Geo. F. Payne, Atlanta; Professor Edward Kremers, Madison, Wis.; Professor S. P. Sadler, Philadelphia; Professor Henry Kraemer, Philadelphia; Professor H. A. Hare, Philadelphia; Professor L. E. Sayre, Lawrence, Kan.; Professor A. B. Stevens, Ann Arbor, Mich.; Dr. A. B. Lyons, Detroit; Professor C. Lewis Diehl, Louisville; Professor Oscar Oldberg, Chicago; John Marshall, Philadelphia; W. S. Haines, Chicago; J. J. Abel, New York; Professor Virgil Coblenz, New York; Professor W. B. Scoville, Boston; C. S. N. Hallberg, Chicago; Dr. A. R. L. Dohme, Baltimore; and R. W. Wilcox, New York.

## Personalities.

MR. S. J. LEEK, formerly with Messrs. Marshalls (Limited), is now manager of, and representative for, Messrs. Goddon (Limited), 31 Caffyn Street, Blackfriars, S.E.

MR. E. J. PARRY, B.Sc., has been appointed by the British Royal Commission one of the jurors for the Paris exhibition, to adjudicate on Class LXII. ("various beverages").

MESSRS. DIBDIN & THUDICHUM, of Westminster, have been appointed consulting chemists to the Carlisle Sewage Committee for one year at a salary of 100*l.* and expenses.

MR. MEREDITH WYNTER BLYTH, B.A., B.Sc., has been appointed public analyst for Brighton at a salary of 50*l.* per annum and fees ranging from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* 6*d.* per sample.

MR. W. A. KNIGHT, Pereira medallist, has accepted the lectureship on organic chemistry and dispensing at the Westminster College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, and commences his duties in September next.

MR. A. SYDNEY CAMPKIN, J.P., of Cambridge, has been elected a director of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, and other offices were conferred upon him during the meeting at Portsmouth, he being held in high respect by this fraternity.

MR. E. A. HOLLOWAY, chairman and managing-director of Holloway's Wine Company (Limited), has resigned his position and sold out his interest in the company, and has taken offices in the adjoining building, 3 Oxford Mansions, New Oxford Street, W.C.

MRS. CORNELIUS HANBURY, SEN., of Dynevor House, Richmond, Surrey (mother of Mr. Cornelius Hanbury, Chairman of Allen & Hanburys, Limited), completed her 107th year last Saturday. Mrs. Hanbury retains her faculties, but is confined to her room.

MR. WILLIAM A. LAY, chemist and druggist, Johannesburg, is now in London on a short business visit preparatory to returning to South Africa. Since the war broke out Mr. Lay has been assisting the Red Cross Society in its administrative work, and came home with some of the wounded on the *Tagus*.

AT the laying of the foundation-stone of a Nurses' Home at the Royal Albert Hospital, Devonport, by Princess Henry of Battenberg, on June 9, the Stonehouse District Council was represented by its Chairman, Mr. F. Maitland, President of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and District Chemists' Association.

MR. JOSEPH EDMUND WRIGHT, the senior wrangler at Cambridge, is a son of Mr. Joseph Wright, chemist and druggist, 174 Park Road, Liverpool. This is, as far as we are aware, the first time that the son of a chemist has taken this highest of all English academical honours. Mr. Wright is 22 years old. He was educated at the Liverpool Institute, and entered Trinity with a Minor scholarship in 1887. Mr. Percy Morris Marples, bracketed sixth wrangler, is a nephew of Mr. Marples, homœopathic chemist, Liverpool.

## Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

### COUNCIL MEETING.

THE election of three new members of Council has shifted the arrangements at the Council-table somewhat. Mr. Harrington has moved to the left of Mr. Allen's old chair, which was beside the Secretary's; Mr. Cooper has Mr. Atkins and Mr. Johnston on either side; Mr. Wootton sits between Mr. Corder and Dr. Symes; whilst Mr. Taylor, looking healthily sunburnt, has Mr. Glyn-Jones and Mr. Savory as his neighbours. Mr. Martindale accounted for his absence from the last Council-meeting and the annual general meeting, after which the election of officers took place. Mr. Newsholme was elected President by a large majority, Mr. Allen was chosen as Vice-President, and Mr. Atkins was re-elected to the office of Treasurer. The various committees were arranged, the new councillors being put in place of former members of the Council. Later on the company-pharmacy question was brought up by a motion by Mr. Hills to get the Law and Parliamentary Committee to consider the present position, and if nothing is resolved on the Committee are to state the reason why. Mr. Hills's motion, after an interesting discussion, was carried. Mr. Martindale suggested that the President should write to the Privy Council to find out why the scheduling of carbolic acid was being delayed, but after some discussion it was agreed to give the Privy Council a month's grace. So ended the first Council-meeting of the new official year.

The monthly meeting of the Council took place on June 13. There were present Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Carteighe, Cooper, Corder, Cross, Glyn-Jones, Harrington, Harrison, Hills, Johnston, Martindale, Newsholme, Savory, Storrar, Symes, Taylor, Wootton, and Young.

Mr. Martindale was Chairman and Mr. Newsholme Vice-Chairman.

The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and signed as correct, after which

The CHAIRMAN expressed his regret at being unable to be present at the last Council-meeting and the annual general meeting. He was sorry to have had to leave his duties, but had become so unstrung that he had been obliged to take a sea-trip. He stated further that he had been glad to note the high esteem with which the Society was held in South Africa. When he arrived at Durban he was welcomed by Mr. Champion, the President of the Pharmacy Board of Africa, and on the night he left Cape Town he was entertained, as they had probably read, by the Cape Society, the latter being a compliment from the youngest English-speaking Society to the President of the oldest Society.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The CHAIRMAN announced that letters acknowledging condolences had been received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, Miss Bird, Madame Planchon, Mr. Hugill, Mr. Fred. Reynolds and Mr. Watt's relatives.

Mr. Peck and Mr. Pinches thanked the Council for appointing them examiners for the Jacob Bell and Manchester scholarships.

The next business of the meeting was the

### ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT.

The CHAIRMAN explained the method of voting—the placing of a cross on the left-hand side of the name of the councillor they wished to vote for—and the Secretary went round with a box to receive the papers. Before the ballot-papers were collected,

Mr. WOOTTON asked if there was any objection to taking a

second ballot so as to get an absolute majority for the new President.

The reply was understood to be that such a course would be taken if thought desirable.

The CHAIRMAN and SECRETARY then called over the voting-papers. Thirteen votes were recorded for Mr. Newsholme, three for Mr. Atkins, and one each for Mr. Savory and Mr. Hills. One paper was returned blank.

The CHAIRMAN then declared Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme President for the ensuing year. (Cheers.)

The President then took the chair, Mr. MARTINDALE wishing him a successful year, and handing him the keys of office.

The PRESIDENT acknowledged the honour done to him, and said he believed it was an innovation to have a provincial chemist as President of the Society. Such a thing had not happened in the history of the Society, but the altered conditions of travelling made the journey to London easier than formerly, and the appointment of a provincial chemist possible. He had not, perhaps, the ability of his predecessors, but owing to the illness of the President last year he had become well acquainted with the work.

### ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT.

The result of the ballot for Vice-President resulted in twelve votes for Mr. Allen, two for Mr. Savory, and one each for Messrs. Atkins, Glyn-Jones, Harrington, and Wootton. One paper was blank.

The PRESIDENT declared Mr. C. B. Allen Vice-President for the ensuing year.

Mr. ALLEN thereupon took the vice-chair, and said from a tolerably long experience of the working of the Council he had sufficient faith in the majority of the Council to do what was right for the Society. He was proud to accept and occupy the honourable office of Vice-President. (Hear, hear.) Before sitting down the Vice-President congratulated the President on his appointment.

### ELECTION OF TREASURER.

The ballot for Treasurer resulted in seventeen votes for Mr. Atkins and two blank papers.

The PRESIDENT thereupon declared Mr. S. R. Atkins Treasurer of the Society for the ensuing year.

The TREASURER said he was much obliged for the renewed expression of confidence. He had simply to say that their finances were in a sound condition, and were progressively favourable. He desired also to congratulate the Vice-President on his appointment.

### THANKS TO THE PAST-PRESIDENT.

The PRESIDENT moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Martindale for his services as President during the year just ended. He was sorry that the state of Mr. Martindale's health would not permit of him taking office for another year, but he knew that with his improved health he (the President) would be able to look to him for help in the future. He was very fortunate in having three Past-Presidents to help him.

The VICE-PRESIDENT also expressed regret that Mr. Martindale's health did not permit him to continue in the Presidential chair.

Mr. WALTER HILLS said he knew how much their thanks were due to Mr. Martindale, who had tried to carry out his work conscientiously. It was this conscientious zeal which had broken down his health.

Mr. MARTINDALE, who spoke at first with some feeling, said he was much obliged for the kind manner the Council had expressed their thanks to him. He was sorry he was unable to continue duty as President, but would do all he could to help the new President. He himself had received great help from the Past-President and dowager Past-President. (Hear, hear.)

The standing orders for the ensuing year were then passed, after which the Council proceeded to the

### ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICIALS.

Mr. Richard Bremridge was elected Secretary and Registrar, Dr. B. H. Paul and Mr. John Humphrey editor and sub-editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, Mr. E. M. Holmes curator of the museum, and Mr. J. R. Hill Assistant Secretary in Scotland.



## ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

A number (not stated) of members and student associates were then elected, three persons were restored to the register, and about fifty members restored to the Society.

## COMMITTEES.

The constitution of the various committees was next arranged.

The General Purposes Committee is, as usual, to consist of the whole of the Council.

On the Finance Committee Mr. Wootton was appointed to take the place of Messrs. Grose and Warren.

At this point

Mr. YOUNG raised the question of the day of meeting of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee. He thought if the committee met at about the same time as the other committees, country members would be able to join it: at present it was practically impossible for provincial members to join. If it was convenient to the London members, he would like to suggest the Tuesday or Wednesday morning of the Council-meeting week.

Some discussion took place in committee on this proposal, and on the protest of Mr. GLYN-JONES that such discussion, or at least the answer to Mr. Young, should be in open Council.

The PRESIDENT said the question had not much to do with the outside public. It was almost impossible to find another whole day to devote to committee-work near the date of the Council-meeting, and it would be difficult for the office to cope with a new arrangement.

On the Benevolent Fund Committee Messrs. Taylor and Cooper were appointed in place of Mr. Bateson.

On the Library, Museum, and House Committee Mr. Glyn-Jones was appointed in place of Mr. Warren.

In regard to the Law and Parliamentary Committee, it was pointed out by Mr. GLYN-JONES that at present all the members of the Council but one were on the committee, and that it would be better to make the committee consist of all the members. After some discussion in committee, it was decided that in future the Law and Parliamentary Committee should be the whole Council.

The Watch Committee, whose duty it is to keep an eye on Parliamentary matters and act promptly if need be, was again appointed. It consists of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and London members of Council.

The Research Committee was reappointed, which caused

Dr. SYMES to ask if the Council should not have regular reports from the Research Committee.

Mr. MARTINDALE said the reason they had not had regular reports in the past was that the committee only occasionally had business to report.

The staff of the school and officers were requested to make the necessary arrangements for evening meetings.

## FINANCIAL MATTERS.

The members who acted as a Finance Committee presented a report which showed the following balances:—General Fund account, 3,957*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*; Benevolent Fund account, 895*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; donation account, 210*l.*; Orphan Fund account, 256*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*; and submitted for payment the sum of 1,634*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, which included 987*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.* on behalf of the *Journal*, 54*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* for salaries, 203*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* for sundries, 350*l.* current expenses, and 39*l.* 18*s.* accountants' fees.

Mr. MARTINDALE moved the adoption of the report, and mentioned that the Benevolent Fund had received a legacy of 100 guineas from the late Mr. Hugill.

The report was adopted.

## BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the members of the Council acting as a Benevolent Committee was next taken. It recommended grants of 20*l.*, 10*l.*, and three of 13*l.* each to applicants. The report was put, and carried unanimously.

## LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the members forming a Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was then read. It consisted of reports from the Librarian and Curator, a suggestion for

a new library-catalogue, and a recommendation that the Curator be allowed to purchase a gross of corks for use in the museum.

The same members, sitting as a Research Committee, reported on the progress of the work which was being done on Pharmacopœia standards, and recommended that Mr. W. H. Lenton be appointed to the Burroughs scholarship.

The PRESIDENT, in moving that the reports be adopted, said the work done by Mr. Lenton as a student fully warranted the committee in appointing him to the Burroughs scholarship.

## FORMAL THINGS.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said he had a few formal things to propose in regard to ground-rents and the special finance connected with the Benevolent Fund. The property at Strawberry Hill had been let on a lease for 140*l.* a year, and it was necessary to get permission to place the Society's seal on the lease. They had also made an agreement with Mrs. Bone, whose house adjoins theirs, whereby she was to pay 1*s.* a year for light. This was to reserve their right of building on the garden of "The Elms."

Mr. MARTINDALE said he had looked over the lease and the light agreement, and they seemed to make their rights clear.

The seal of the Society was ordered to be affixed as required.

Mr. CARTEIGHE also asked that the Freehold Investment Committee be reappointed, and, this being done, reported that the committee were at present negotiating for some ground-rents, and required a power of attorney to affix the seal of the Society to a sale of certain stock, not to exceed 6,000*l.*, if it should be required. The required resolution was passed, and also one authorising the Treasurer to pay the money if needed.

The selection of a person to deliver the address at the opening of the school session in October was left with the Library Committee.

## QUESTION OF ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said that, judging from the length of the agenda, he thought it would be better if they adjourned for lunch. They could not, of course, tell what would arise, but the policy of getting done before lunch-time caused a tendency to rush things a bit.

Dr. SYMES said it had been their custom to go on till a later hour before adjournment for lunch.

Mr. YOUNG thought it was a good thing not to adjourn if it shortened business.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: That is open to question.

## DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE.

The following members were appointed delegates to the forthcoming annual Pharmaceutical Conference: Messrs. Harrington, Young, Glyn-Jones, Harrison, Cross, Atkins (Treasurer), Cooper, Johnson, Wootton, Symes, Hills, and Martindale.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The SECRETARY then read a communication from the Nottingham Chemists' Association, enclosing the Companies Bill resolution passed at a meeting of that Association on May 2, and one from the Forfarshire Chemists' Association, enclosing the resolution of May 23 regarding the division of the Minor. Both communications were referred to the General Purposes Committee. The Liverpool Chemists' Association's approval of the action of the Council in regard to the Companies Bill was also notified.

## INTERNATIONAL PHARMACY CONGRESS.

Mr. MARTINDALE mentioned that he and Mr. Atkins would represent the Council at the forthcoming International Congress of Pharmacy to be held in Paris on August 2 to 8.

## BY-LAWS.

The SECRETARY referred to the fact that the sub-committee appointed last year had reported to the General Purposes Committee, who had thought it desirable to make certain alterations in the by-laws.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said that the by-laws were argued out, and the alterations made under the direction, or by the

help, of a small sub-committee, of which the President was the chairman; and it had been suggested by Dr. Symes that possibly they might be able to alter the word "Minor," as applied to examinations; and Mr. Wootton had suggested that they might also deal with the Major examination. He (Mr. Carteighe) attached so much importance to these suggestions that he ventured to submit that the most convenient plan would be to refer back these by-laws to the original sub-committee, with instructions to submit them at the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee for final consideration. The reason for this was that the by-laws, as passed by the Council for the first time, must be verbatim and correct. This procedure would certainly facilitate business. Altogether the by-laws had to be read three times before the Council, and it was necessary that they should be read and passed in the early part of August. It was not obligatory to read the by-laws at the ordinary meeting of the Council, but at a special meeting; but one of the objects in presenting them to-day was that the Council should be able to read them the second time in July, and a third time in August.

Dr. SYMES said they had gone very carefully into the matter the previous night, and he, as a member of the committee, should not have suggested any alteration; but it had occurred to him that as they were constantly hearing the Minor examination called the "Qualifying examination," and as they were altering the by-laws, it would be an excellent opportunity to substitute the word "Qualifying" for Minor examination where the latter word occurred. He thought that it would meet with the general approval of their members.

The PRESIDENT thought the by-laws should go back again, and come before the Council as amended, and he proposed that this be done.

Mr. GOWEN CROSS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

#### VOTING-PAPERS.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he would be obliged if the committee would consider if there were any real reason why the voting-papers sent out for election of Council should contain any distinguishing marks, and, if so, what the marks should be; or if they might be sent out absolutely without any distinguishing marks. Asterisks were at present attached to the names of retiring Councillors, and voters had been asked to strike out the names of those seeking election who had such asterisks against their names. (Laughter.)

Dr. SYMES: Do you wish that to be considered and voted upon?

Mr. CROSS reminded Mr. Glyn-Jones that the question had been discussed and defeated by a considerable majority.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said, if necessary, he should raise the question in Council, as if the committee had the matter before them again they might consider it differently.

Mr. MARTINDALE, referring to the question of examinations, said the alteration of the word "Minor" would be a very radical change.

Mr. CARTEIGHE submitted that the proposition already put by the President closed the discussion on that subject.

#### THE COMPANIES BILL.

Mr. WALTER HILLS was then called upon by the President, and he put the following resolution to the meeting:—

That the Law and Parliamentary Committee be requested to take into immediate consideration the present position of the Companies Bill, and to report as to the line of policy which appears most expedient to adopt in reference to Clauses 2 and 3 of that Bill in the present Parliamentary Session, or in the next Session should these clauses be again introduced into this or any similar Bill. Also to consider the position of pharmacy in respect to company-trading, and to suggest such action in reference thereto as may be deemed expedient.

The original resolution, of which Mr. Hills had given notice, ended in the words "similar Bill," but he asked to be allowed to add the remaining portion of his motion.

Mr. GLYN-JONES suggested that the words added really covered Mr. Hills's previous resolution.

Mr. HARRISON said that primarily the object of the resolution appeared to be that they should watch more closely the action of Parliament, but that if there were no

action taken in regard to the question of the Companies Bill, then they could go into the whole question *de novo*.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: I have no objection at all.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said the Council had already proposed a certain resolution, and had taken a certain line of conduct. Mr. Hills's resolution proposed starting *de novo*. He (Mr. Carteighe) considered Mr. Hills out of order, but he might as well go on, as the resolution really could do no harm.

The PRESIDENT: I think Mr. Hills may go on with his resolution.

Mr. WOOTTON thought it extraordinary that Mr. Hills should be considered out of order. Surely the present Council had power to go into the matter again without rescinding a resolution of the old Council.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: Not while the Bill is in the House, or until that Bill is specifically reported on and a certain line of action taken.

Mr. HARRISON: It is competent to send this question even at this stage back to the committee to reconsider the question.

The PRESIDENT thereupon

#### CALLED UPON MR. HILLS,

who said he did not ask the Council to rescind their previous action. He merely asked them to agree with him that the conditions at that moment were such that it was advisable that the matter should be reconsidered by the Law and Parliamentary Committee. The subject of company-trading was always before them, and he was afraid it had had something to do with the breakdown of their late President. It had been also before him (Mr. Hills) during his presidency, and judging by the Editorial comments in the official *Journal* they would think that there was hardly anything else to be considered. It was difficult to deal with the matter from a highly professional point of view, as he found that the matter was dealt with practically; he had had to come from that high professional standpoint. He referred them to two articles in the *Journal* of the week before last, which he did not think were quite consistent. The company-question was a sort of *bête noire*: if they did not deal with it now, and the Government did not choose to deal with it, they would have to do with it later. They wanted certain alterations of the pharmacy laws. He wanted an enforced curriculum for one thing. They had had a resolution from Forfarshire asking that they should consider the question of dividing the qualifying examination. They would be willing when they had some system of training; and the same might be said with regard to reciprocity of qualification in different parts of the Empire. Did they think they could really go to Parliament to ask for an alteration of their Act or a modification of it, without dealing with the company-question. If they did not deal with it (and their people were asking them to deal with it), the Government would, or behalf of the public, and they would insert into any Pharmacy Acts Amendment Bill some clause dealing with the company-question. He thought they should face the matter again. They had just gone through an election. He personally had had to undergo a certain amount of catechising for the Council-election, like other candidates. There were several questions addressed to him on this company-question. Luckily for him, he was able to say he had given utterance to his views, and his views were not exactly the same in this matter as those of many of his colleagues for whom he had the greatest respect. At the same time, he asked them to vote for his motion to send the matter back to the committee for reconsideration under the present conditions. They were told that the Companies Bill was likely to be dropped, and he thought it was, but they did not know. If they did know, he would eliminate the word "amendment" from his resolution. Until they knew that the Government intended to let the subject drop for the Session he thought it would be unwise to leave it so late that the Law and Parliamentary Committee could not advise the Council to deal with it otherwise than by the resolution previously alluded to. They were told that Mr. Ritch would not accept any amendment. That might be so, but he thought that even Ministers were amenable to a little pressure. They were absolutely unanimous on the point restrictions of title to individuals as regards companies, as he did think if they were to press that point on every member of the House of Commons who represent



them, they would bring such an amount of pressure to bear on that Minister as would enable them to carry their point. That would be a great gain. There was another point. It was said this Parliament was probably going out, and the present Session might be the last; but it was possible that it might continue for another Session, and it was also quite possible that they might bring up a Bill in the next Session, and it might be considered advisable that this matter might be played off. He, therefore, was of opinion that the Council should consider the matter again. What he wanted to impress upon them was that this question would have to be settled by them in some practical way sooner or later. They would make no advance in pharmaceutical legislation as long as this question remained as at present. If he believed that by leaving the matter alone, and by simply opposing a clause such as that in the Bill before the House of Commons, their object would be gained, he would content himself with opposing any sort of recognition of company-trading at all. But he could not look upon it that way. He saw this company-trading increasing every year, and they were uncertain about their titles even. If they were not uncertain they would not take the trouble, as some of them did, to ask for fresh legislation, so that titles should be protected to the individual. There was still another point. He regretted the House of Lords' decision had ever been given on the lines on which it was given. It was unsatisfactory to him that the General Purposes Committee should take action against these various employes, who were more sinned against than sinning, and they often found they could not get the 5% penalty from them. What had they been doing all these years? Had the policy of waiting been satisfactory? He thought not. He thought they should have unanimity of opinion that day, so that in the course of four or five months' time, if the present Bill dropped in the House of Commons, that Council, which had the right, should give some sort of lead to those it represented, as shown by the late election. He would ask them merely to agree with his motion, and not to disagree on any technical ground that they had already settled upon a certain course of action, but that they should look at it in a broad, liberal way, worthy of a new Council. They had got certain new members, and when it came to those quarters on the Law and Parliamentary Committee they might throw some light on what the committee did not see before. He thought it would be advantageous to reconsider the matter. (Applause.)

#### THE MOTION FAVOURABLY RECEIVED.

Mr. HARRISON seconded the motion because he agreed with Mr. Hills that this was an opportune moment for reopening the question, seeing that they had just gone through an election in which it figured largely, and during which they had heard the opinions of men whose ideas were more or less impregnated with the question. Company-trading was extending, and he was bound to say was in a very large number of instances a direct menace to the country. They had an instance before them in committee the previous evening that he was sure any unprejudiced person would agree was a gross scandal. When a man found himself unable to pass the qualifying examination he evaded the test altogether and took advantage of the looseness of the Companies Acts. He thought they ought to find some way of dealing with such a question as that. They were all equally desirous that the Pharmacy Act should be preserved in its integrity, and it was in that spirit he seconded the motion.

Mr. DAVID STORRAR supported the motion, and said he hoped it would be unanimously adopted. He was proceeding to discuss his action with regard to the former resolution on the subject, when the PRESIDENT pointed out that he was going somewhat wide of the motion, and Mr. STORRAR said he would reserve what he desired to say till the matter was again brought before the Council.

Mr. WOOTTON said he was sorry to interpose between the Council and luncheon, but he could not very well give a silent vote on this question, for the reason that he felt himself pledged to the members of the Pharmaceutical Society to say something on the subject. Apparently there seemed to be no opposition to Mr. Hills's motion, and those who proposed before appeared to wish a unanimous vote on the

present occasion. He hoped that this reversal was going to be accepted.

The PRESIDENT: You must not tie the hands of the Law and Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. WOOTTON said he wished to state that the vote of the Pharmaceutical Society at the last election was, in his opinion, very distinctly a mandate to the Council to reverse their decision. He thought the voting then very clearly showed—

Mr. STORRAR interrupted, claiming the right to give his explanation if Mr. Wootton were allowed to proceed on those lines.

Dr. SYMES said if the matter were going to be discussed there was no purpose in sending it to the committee.

Mr. WOOTTON, continuing, said he wished the question to be considered in its widest aspect. He should like to see the Council definitely committed, and Mr. Hills's motion should be reported to the next meeting of the Council. He had been very much surprised that the Council had not considered the matter urgent. It certainly was a matter of extreme difficulty, but the difficulty which he had thought insuperable was to get the subject discussed in Parliament at all, and then when the Lord Chancellor by his motion three times repeated in Committee had opened the door of Parliament, it seemed to him extraordinary that the Pharmaceutical Society had refused to enter Parliament to discuss it. They thought if they could get the discussion that they could convince members of Parliament of the justice of their case. If they (the Council) thought this could be discussed in committee so much better than in open Council he did not wish to delay the matter, but he had several things he wished to say on the subject.

The PRESIDENT: When the Law and Parliamentary Committee have considered the matter it may be discussed in open Council.

Mr. WOOTTON: Except that the Companies Bill is very likely to be withdrawn or Parliament may be dissolved. He thought it was just as urgent that they should take the opportunity of securing, if possible, an interview with the Lord Chancellor, and discussing the matter with him. Certainly his clause did not meet with the approval of any pharmacist he (Mr. Wootton) knew. He had strong hopes that if the Council were determined on the matter they could bring a great deal of pressure to bear. He thought also the Lord Chancellor was amenable, and would not refuse to listen to what the Council had to say on the subject.

Mr. JOHN TAYLOR said he also intended to vote for the motion, although he took an opposite view to that of Mr. Wootton. He would like to go into the matter in its various aspects in the way of argument, but he desired to ask his colleagues, Had they considered, if company-pharmacy were regulated, either by a Pharmacy Act or a new clause in the Companies Bill, how far legal recognition of company-pharmacy would affect the legal status of the Society itself? He held that if they legally recognised company-pharmacy they would have to face an entirely different state of affairs in the position of the Society with regard to pharmacy in this country. They would find themselves in the position of a teaching, an examining, and a registering body for a host of limited companies. (Applause.)

Mr. GLYN-JONES asked for an immediate report from the committee, and would be very glad if Mr. Hills could see his way to embody in his resolution words suggesting this, so that the Council could take action at its next meeting. They had heard that the Session (or the Government) was dying. (No, no.) Well, his argument was that they had in the Lord Chancellor the highest law-officer of the land, who was apparently determined to deal with this subject at some time or another. Surely, therefore, it was wise that they should immediately come to some decision, and see the Lord Chancellor, with a view to educating him upon their side of the question.

#### A VOICE FROM THE CITADEL.

Mr. ATKINS said he did not object to this question going again to the committee, but he did not agree with it, and was not prepared to admit that there must be a reversal of what had been previously done. He welcomed with all his heart the new voices on the Council, but was not prepared to say there was any mandate from the country. They



could not exaggerate the necessity of a solution of the problem before them, and if they could find a way out of the difficulty, he would not stand in the way, as he felt strongly that if they put their fiat of approval to regulation of company-pharmacy they did so for all time.

Mr. HILLS, in reply, said after hearing what had been said by gentlemen of different opinions, he congratulated himself that he had been very clear in wording his resolution. He only wished them to consider the matter. He would suggest, if he might, that they have a meeting next week, and if they found they could not get any further they should leave the matter to the next Council-meeting. If, after talking the matter over, they thought it advisable to get a fresh mandate from the Council, then the President might summon a meeting of the Council even before the July meeting.

The PRESIDENT then put the resolution to the Council, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. GLYN-JONES urged that the committee should be asked to report to the next Council-meeting, and for that purpose he would move a resolution to that effect.

Mr. WOOTTON seconded this, but

The PRESIDENT, at the suggestion of Mr. CARTEIGHE, ruled it out of order.

#### THE PRIVY COUNCIL AND CARBOLIC ACID.

Mr. MARTINDALE then rose for the purpose of drawing attention to the dilatoriness of the Privy Council on the question of the scheduling of carbolic acid as a poison within the meaning of the Act. He thought the matter was delayed unnecessarily and that the Council should come to some decision so that the Privy Council might have their expression of opinion before them. He begged to move that the President should write to the Privy Council on the matter once more.

The PRESIDENT explained that he had quite recently seen the Secretary of the Privy Council and he was assured that they were not losing sight of the matter. At the present stage he (the President) thought no good purpose would be served by communicating again.

Dr. SYMES also referred to the delay occasioned by the Privy Council through their conferring with the Agricultural Department. There had been also a good deal of misrepresentation of their position as chemists in the matter. In the meantime deaths from carbolic poisoning were occurring, and he thought the Privy Council were responsible in a measure.

After some further discussion, in which Messrs Harrison, Glyn-Jones, and Martindale took part, it was decided that the matter should be left in the hands of the President until the next meeting, and if by then no communication had been received from the Privy Council, the matter should be dealt with by the Council.

Mr. MARTINDALE thereupon withdrew his motion, and the public business ended.

## Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. T. M. DAVIES has opened a branch drug-store at Victoria Buildings, West Parade, Rhyl, Flintshire.

MR. F. W. HORNBY has taken over the business of "Yates," pharmaceutical chemist, 134 Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth.

MR. E. BROWNING, chemist and druggist, of 28 Treville Street, Plymouth, has opened a branch-pharmacy at 12 Amity Place, Tavistock Road, Plymouth.

MR. F. H. NEWTON, chemist and druggist, announces that he has succeeded to the business at 35 Catherine Street, Salisbury, for many years carried on by his late father.

MESSRS. ROBERT FERBER & Co., wholesale druggists and medicinal-capsule makers, have removed from 14 Upper Thames Street to larger premises at 195 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.

It is Mr. Bertram Webster who has purchased Mr. Freeman's business at 6 Queen's Terrace, Church End, Finchley. Mr. Watkins is opening a pharmacy shortly at North Finchley.

## Waldie's Pharmacy.

WE have told more than once the story of how Sir James Y. Simpson got his notion of chloroform from Mr. David Waldie, whose name is still associated with the drug-trade in the house of Messrs. David Waldie & Co., manufacturing chemists, Calcutta (who are agents for THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST in that locality). Mr. Waldie was a Linlithgow man. We mentioned last week that the shop there in which he brought chloroform to Sir James Y. Simpson's notice had changed hands. We are authoritatively informed that it was in this shop that Mr. Waldie told Professor



Simpson of Liebig's perchloride of formyl, although we have also heard that this happened in Princes Street, Edinburgh. The shop has been the home of a chemist's, druggist's, and printing business since the end of the eighteenth century. The parents of the late David Waldie, surgeon, founded the business. Mrs. Waldie (the mother) conducted the drug part of it while her husband carried on the printing. Later, various members of the Waldie family assisted in conducting the druggist-business, David (of chloroform fame), George, and Agnes getting registered as chemist. David subsequently left Linlithgow to fill a situation in Liverpool, and afterwards went to Calcutta, where he founded the chemical-manufacturing business which still bears his name. The Waldies were a family of chemists. It is a strange coincidence that this very old-established and interesting business should have fallen into the hands of another old Linlithgow family who are all chemists. The present owner of the business is a lady—namely, Mrs. Christina Millar Spence, chemist and druggist, widow of Robert Spence, M.D. Edin.—and she is assisted in the business by her daughter, Miss Annie Y. W. Spence, and her sons, Alexander, Edward, and William, all of whom are registered chemists and druggists. Mrs. Spence started a druggist's business in Linlithgow about the year 1860; seven years later she removed to larger premises, which she had specially built for a druggist's shop, and which she still occupies. The property belonging to the late Waldie family has just been purchased by Mrs. Spence as a branch establishment.



MRS. CHRISTINA MILLAR SPENCE.



## Legal Reports.

### High Court Cases.

#### "GILLYFLOWER RELISH" FOR YORKSHIRE RELISH.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Tuesday, June 12, Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy had before him a motion in the action by Goodall, Backhouse & Co. against the Shamrock Provision Company, the plaintiffs asking for an interim injunction until the trial of the action or further order to restrain the defendants, who are in business at Bradford, from selling as Yorkshire relish a sauce which was not Yorkshire relish. Mr. Sebastian, for the plaintiffs, said that two or three weeks ago a price-list was brought to his clients' notice in which the Shamrock Provision Company advertised "Yorkshire relish" at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. a bottle. Plaintiffs knew this could not be their sauce, and they sent two women to ask for the article sold by the defendants. They were supplied with two bottles of "Gillyflower relish" in response to an order for Yorkshire relish, but the bottles were not got up like those of the plaintiffs. The defendants' shopman entered the sauce simply as "relish." The plaintiffs were not content with this, and a day or two later the two women went with a written order for Yorkshire relish, and they were again supplied with the "Gillyflower" stuff. The defendants were inducing the public to believe that that which was labelled "Gillyflower" was really Yorkshire relish. The defendants had not appeared to the action, though they had been served with the writ and notice of motion.

Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy granted an injunction against the defendants until the trial of the action or further order, the plaintiffs giving the usual undertaking.

### Pharmacy Acts (Ireland).

#### AN APPEAL.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Dublin, on June 11, before the Lord Chief Baron, Mr. Justice Madden, and Mr. Justice Boyd, application was made on behalf of Alexander Thompson, a sergeant of the Royal Irish Constabulary in Roscommon, for an order to have brought up three orders made by the Magistrates sitting at Petty Sessions at Rosecommon on April 16 last, by which they dismissed three summonses brought by Sergeant Thompson against James and Jane Jones for offences against the Pharmacy Act, and one for an offence against the Sale of Poisons Act. The prosecutor stated that Michael Tiernan, Carrigeens, Tulska, bought 2 oz. of spirit of salt and 2 oz. of corrosive sublimate in Jones's shop in Castle Street, Rosecommon, from Robert Walker, an employé in the service of the Joneses. It was supplied in an ordinary "naggin" bottle, on which was a label with the words, "Joseph O'Neill; old malt whisky; Rosecommon." It was not labelled with the name of the article sold, neither was the word "Poison" on it, nor the name and address of the seller of the article, as required by the provisions of the Sale of Poisons Act. The purchaser drank a quantity of the contents of the bottle, believing it to be whisky, from the effects of which he died the same night. At the inquest, Robert Walker admitted he had sold the spirit of salt and corrosive sublimate to Tiernan. Defendants carried on the business of grocers and ironmongers, and neither was registered as a pharmaceutical chemist. The prosecutor reported the matter to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and received from them instructions to prosecute the defendants or keeping open their shop and retailing and dispensing poisons. At the Petty Sessions at Rosecommon, on April 16, the solicitor for the defendants raised the point that it was not competent for the prosecutor to prosecute—that the Pharmaceutical Society were the proper persons to do so—and the Magistrates agreed with this, and dismissed the summonses.

The Court granted a conditional order and mandamus.

### Companies Acts.

#### KRONTHAL COMPANY (LIMITED).

THE petition of the British Medical Association for the compulsory winding-up of the Kronthal Company (Limited) was

before Mr. Justice Wright in the Companies Winding-up Court on June 13. Mr. Maenaghten, Q.C., said he asked for a compulsory order notwithstanding the existence of a voluntary winding-up. His clients' case was that they could not get their debt paid although there were apparently assets. He would, however, assent to a supervision order, but he wanted to know why he was not paid. Mr. Reed, Q.C., said the business was being carried on for the benefit of the company, and there were assets. He was also willing that there should be a supervision order. His Lordship granted a supervision order, the order to lie in the office until the convening of the company's meeting and the passing of the resolution for voluntary liquidation was legally proved.

His Lordship also gave his decision in an application

#### Re VIDAL FIXED ANILINE DYES (LIMITED).

Messrs. Joseph Crosfield & Sons (Limited), creditors for 400%, petitioned for the compulsory winding-up of the company. Mr. Smith said he appeared for the whole of the debenture-holders. The debentures amounted to about 20,000%, and on June 1 Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy, at the instance of creditors, appointed a receiver and manager in the debenture-holders' action. They were carrying on the business of the company, whose assets consisted of patents and dyes. Under the circumstances it appeared there would be nothing for any creditors if a compulsory order was made, and there was no suggestion that any good would come from it. In answer to his Lordship counsel said there was no uncalled capital, but petitioners said there were arrears of calls amounting to 1,400%. He asked for an adjournment for six months, and said that if the petitioners would attend the proceedings in the debenture-holders' action his clients would assist them in every way in looking after their interests. His Lordship said there must be a compulsory order.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

#### MAGNESIA.—DIVIDING THE SAMPLES.

THE Trowbridge Magistrates had the six-packet purchase problem before them last week in the case of a grocer who was summoned for selling six penny packets of magnesium carbonate as magnesia. The inspector was proceeding to tell the Magistrates how serious the offence was when Mr. Blake, one of them, asked whether he inquired for magnesium oxide, which was pure magnesia, as "magnesia" was a comprehensive term. The inspector replied that only magnesia was asked for, and added that magnesium oxide was expected to be supplied. He admitted that what the defendant sold was not injurious to health, but it was of inferior quality. For the defence it was objected that the article was not divided into three parts, the packets only being divided. The inspector replied that the contents of the packets could not be divided, as the powder would be blown away. The Bench upheld the objection and dismissed the case.

#### SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

AT North London Police Court on Wednesday, June 13, before Mr. Chapman, two prosecutions were instituted by the Hackney Vestry against local dealers for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was (according to the analyst's certificate) deficient in the active principle—viz., ethyl nitrite. One defendant was Mrs. Isabella Miller, of 247 Lower Clapton Road; and the other Mr. Sidney G. Long, chemist and druggist, 197 Lower Clapton Road. In the first case the analyst's certificate stated that the spirit was 77 per cent. deficient, and in the second 34 per cent. Both purchases were made by Sanitary-Inspector Morley on May 10 through the agency of Mrs. Simmonds.

Mr. H. T. Tiddeman prosecuted, and Mr. D. G. Romain defended Mrs. Miller, whose was the first case called.

Mr. Tiddeman explained that action was taken under the 6th section of the Act. He would call, if necessary, the Public Analyst (Mr. Leo Taylor) and the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. King Warry) to prove the case.

The Magistrate: We shall see if they are necessary witnesses.

Mrs. Simmonds deposed to buying the sixpennyworth of spirit of nitre.



Inspector Morley was present, and now testified to dividing the spirit into three portions.

Cross-examined: He took about five minutes in separating the bulk. He took these samples and summonses under the direction of the medical officer of health, who first laid the facts before the Public Health Committee. He did not himself know the composition of sweet spirit of nitre. The quantity purchased was more than three times what was now in one of the bottles.

Mr. Romain said his answer to the case was very simple. He thought he would have had the pleasure of seeing either the public analyst or the medical officer of health in the box.

The Magistrate: You do not dispute the certificate?

Mr. Romain: No; but I thought I might have an opportunity of cross-examining to show that the drug being handed from one to another unavoidably deteriorated. I want to show that there has been nothing wilful on the part of my client. Sweet spirit of nitre is of such a volatile character that it will deteriorate, no matter what care is taken of it.

The Magistrate: Not only deteriorates, but actually disappears?

Mr. Romain: Yes. In this case the drug was manufactured by a firm of eminent chemists, was supplied to a firm of druggists of equal eminence, and by the latter supplied to the defendant. From the moment of manufacture the evaporation commences, and then, when we hear that the inspector occupied five minutes in transferring this sixpennorth to the sample-bottles, one is not surprised at this deterioration. My client does not seek to dispute a legal responsibility. There is no question that we sold the article, and that it was deficient as stated. But the contention is that the evaporation, under all the circumstances, was unavoidable. I submit that if there is no wilful act there is no offence. Section 6 says that no person shall sell to the prejudice of the purchaser any food or drug which is not of the nature, quality, and substance demanded. In Stone's *Justice's Manual* it is said that the "quality" was its purity, and no mention is made of deterioration. If I show that every care was taken with this drug down to the time of coming into the hands of the sanitary inspector, the prosecution must show that my client has wilfully sold this article to the prejudice of the purchaser.

The Magistrate: All that goes to the mitigation of the penalty. No doubt the prosecution will admit that this is such a volatile spirit that it is difficult to keep it up to standard.

Mr. Romain: If the public analyst or the medical officer had been called I should have been able to account for the evaporation.

The Magistrate: If you can show that this deterioration of 77 per cent. took place at the time of the purchase, and in the division for the purposes of analysis, that is a complete answer to the charge.

Mr. Romain: I do not propose to call evidence, but would like to put a few questions to the public analyst to show that this article is continually evaporating.

The Magistrate: What is sweet spirit of nitre used for? Is it a medicine?

Mr. Tiddeman: Yes.

Mr. Leo Taylor Public Analyst for Hackney, was called, and admitted that from the time of manufacture sweet spirit of nitre evaporated. But its volatile nature was recognised by the British Pharmacopœia, and, in addition to defining the minimum strength, told the conditions under which it should be kept and sold.

In cross-examination witness said he would not expect the spirit to be up to the B.P. maximum when sold, considering all that it had to go through, but he would expect it to be up to the minimum. This particular sample which he had analysed was far below the minimum.

The Magistrate: If you undertake to keep and sell these things, you must keep them up to a certain strength. It does not seem reasonable that a person should keep this article until it had lost all its efficacy.

Mr. Taylor: It is usual to keep this drug in small bottles, so that no vacuum should operate upon the spirit, as would be the case in, say, a pint of the spirit in a quart bottle. When the drug has lost its active principle, the purchaser is bound to suffer.

Mr. Romain again expressed regret that this deterioration had happened; but asked the Magistrate to consider the circumstances of the case, and the extreme difficulty under which small retailers of the article worked. Even time the stock-bottle was opened there was an evaporation of the spirit.

The Magistrate said there were certain conditions under which the retailer might minimise the evaporation. He recognised the difficulties of keeping it up to standard strength; but, at the same time, the public must be protected in the important matter of medicine. The Vestry, I supposed, did not ask for a heavy penalty?

Mr. Tiddeman: No. The costs are 12s. 6d.

The Magistrate: Fined 5s., and 12s. 6d. costs.

THE case of Mr. Long was next heard, Mr. Tiddeman prosecuting, and Mr. Beck defending on behalf of the Chemists' Defence Association. Evidence of purchase and dividing the sample having been given, the Sanitary Inspector in reply to Mr. Beck, said he took a bottle for the purchase as was his custom. It was a 4-oz. bottle, and the spirit or partly filled it.

Mr. Leo Taylor produced his certificate, showing a deficiency of 34 per cent. In cross-examination Mr. Taylor said the British Pharmacopœia allowed for the occasional opening of the bottle when declaring the minimum strength which it might be sold. The reduction in this case was from seven to five. The spirit would necessarily evaporate every time the bottle was opened. It would decrease in volume when dividing the sample between the analyst's and other bottles. Mr. Otto Hehner had, he believed, said that in the process of pouring from one bottle to another the loss of strength would be as much as 20 per cent.

The Magistrate: The evaporation appears to be inevitable. And when people go for pennyworths and twopennyworths the stock bottle has to be opened, and there is a decrease of strength at each opening.

Mr. Beck: The only effective way of selling it in accordance with the standard of the British Pharmacopœia appears to be in sealed bottles.

Mr. Leo Taylor: The usual method for chemists is to keep small stock bottles for retailing the drug; because, if kept in large bottles, as the volume decreases so does the essential spirit.

Mr. Tiddeman submitted that his evidence showed sufficient allowance for all reasonable contingencies in the minimum of the British Pharmacopœia. There was an allowance of 20 per cent. decrease between the maximum and the minimum.

Mr. Leo Taylor, in reply to a question, said he would expect to find a decrease of more than 14 per cent. of the allowed if ordinary care were taken.

Mr. Tiddeman: If we were to pour from one bottle to another from the top of a house to the bottom, the whole of the active principle would probably be gone?

Mr. Taylor: That is an experiment which I have not tried. (Laughter.)

The Magistrate: It appears to me to be a very ticklish article to sell.

Mr. Tiddeman: Yes; but my point is that the British Pharmacopœia allows for all reasonable loss.

Mr. Beck: Yes, for the wholesale trade. But the standard fixed by the British Pharmacopœia is not for the retailer. It is between the manufacturer and the chemist, and not between the chemist and the public. What we want to remember is the condition under which the thing is sold. You have to take the different standards where the article is bought in a large quantity, and where people bring small bottles for small quantities, because of necessity the stock bottle would have to be continually opened. There appears to be no help for the evaporation when small quantities are sold, unless it be that the article is first put into different sized bottles and securely stoppered. My client buys from a very well-known firm, and his invoices are marked "Of P. strength." As an additional precaution he divides his stock bottle into two half-pint bottles. Of course, the marking "Of P. strength" is no legal guarantee or warranty, but there is no doubt he got it as stated. The stock-bottle is stoppered, and every care is taken to keep the article to strength. But the opening of the bottle five or six times before it is exhausted must of necessity cause evaporation.



I am going to call the defendant and a well-known analytical expert, Mr. Moore, to give evidence on the point.

Mr. Long was sworn on his own behalf. He said he purchased the sweet nitre on May 5, five days before the sample was taken for analysis. His customers invariably asked for a pennyworth or twopennyworth; and, therefore, it was absolutely necessary to open the bottle for each call. In cross-examination he said he kept the stock-bottle in a dark place. He said further "The Pharmacopoeia is prepared by the Medical Council, and medical men prescribe from it. It does not follow that the British Pharmacopoeia is prepared especially for the medical profession; but if we had a prescription to make up with spirit of nitre in it we should not take it from the stock-bottle in the shop, but from that which was in the dark cellar."

Mr. C. G. Moore, M.A., F.I.C., public analyst for Exeter, was also called for the defence. He said he received from Mr. Long the portion of the sample left with him by the inspector. His (witness's) analysis practically agreed with that of Mr. Leo Taylor. He had given considerable attention to this drug. A retail chemist had marked his stock-bottle after selling to each customer, and when the twenty-sixth sale had been effected it was found that the spirit had deteriorated from 7 to 2. Mr. Moore gave experimental data of his own which proved the rapid deterioration of the spirit in the ordinary course of retailing.

By Mr. Tiddeman: Would not say that it was then in a fit condition to sell to the public.

Mr. Chapman, in deciding the case, said there was considerable difficulty in coming to a conclusion. There was no doubt as to the deficiency, but it was not fraudulent, and every care had apparently been taken to give the article in a proper condition. But it was such an exceedingly volatile spirit that the deterioration appeared to be inevitable. No one could have behaved more reasonably than the defendant, and yet under the Act there was an error. He did not like to convict under such circumstances, and thought the justice of the case would be met by the defendant paying 12s. 6d., costs of analysis. The summons was therefore dismissed.

Mr. Tiddeman: There is the British Pharmacopoeia standard.

Mr. Chapman: Yes; but that has been explained by Mr. Moore.

#### CAMPHORATED OIL.

AT Paisley on June 13, before Sheriff Henderson, Mr. R. T. McCowan, chemist, 23 Gauze Street, was charged with selling camphorated oil which was deficient 20 per cent. in camphor. He pleaded guilty, explaining that the oil in question had been taken from one of his branches, and was the last of a quantity made about two or three months previous, which he believed to contain the proper amount of camphor; and he could only account for the deficiency as being due to evaporation, as it was well known that camphor was very volatile. There was absolutely no intention to infringe the law.

Sheriff Henderson said the explanation was quite satisfactory, and dismissed the case with the recommendation to be more careful in future not to keep the oil so long, and if kept to add more camphor to it. However, as defendant had been technically guilty, he would have to pay the expenses—17. 1s.

Dr. William Russell, 2 Cotton Street, was next charged with selling camphorated oil which was deficient 45 per cent. of camphor, and containing 60 per cent. of cotton-seed oil instead of olive oil. He pleaded guilty, but said that in foreign countries they were contented with the same amount of camphor as he had in his compound; and in the United States they required even less—about 40 per cent.—of cotton-seed oil than he put in. The oil was made in various ways, and in some countries cotton-seed oil was preferred to olive oil.

Sheriff Henderson pointed out that an offence had been committed against our standard, which must be complied with, but it was no attempt to defraud the public. Defendant would also have to pay one guinea expenses.

Mr. Thomas Horne, 18 Gilmour Street, was charged with selling camphorated oil made wholly with sesame oil instead of olive oil. For the defence it was held that the complaint was irrelevant, as it did not specify that the purchaser was prejudiced, there being nothing to show that the sesame oil

had been used to fraudulently increase the bulk or weight of the camphorated oil. It was further argued that sesame oil was better than olive oil for preserving purposes, because the latter froze at a very high temperature. One guinea expenses was ordered to be paid.

Mr. Alex. Fraser, 100 High Street, pleaded guilty to a charge similar to that preferred against Mr. McCowan, the deficiency in the latter case being put at 30 per cent. A similar penalty of one guinea expenses was imposed.

Mr. McCowan, at the close of the prosecutions, pointed out that there had been no adulteration proved in these cases, and added that it would be serious for the chemists if the public thought they were being defrauded. To this Sheriff Henderson replied that it was perfectly clear that there was not the slightest attempt to defraud by adulterating the oil, but it was necessary to comply stringently with the somewhat strict rules of this Act.

### County Court Case.

#### LOSS OF A CHEMIST'S HORSE.

AT the Grantham County Court on June 12, Wm. Whysall, pharmaceutical chemist and mineral-water manufacturer, of 11th Street, Grantham, sued George Rippin, a farmer, for 45l., the value of his horse, injured in a collision with the defendant's trap which was being driven carelessly down the Station Road. The animal was so badly hurt that it had to be slaughtered immediately. The Judge, after hearing evidence, gave judgment for plaintiff for 25l. and costs.

### Bankruptcy Reports.

#### Re STOWER & Co. (LIMITED), 38 Mainsby Lane, Liverpool, Fruit-essence Manufacturers.

We have previously reported this case, and the following statement of affairs has been filed:—Liabilities, to unsecured creditors, 2,838l. 1s. 7d.; to other liabilities, 562l. 13s. 4d.; total, 3,400l. 14s. 11d.; and assets, consisting of cash at banker's, 17s. 8d.; cash in hand, 5l. 17s. 4d.; stock-in-trade (estimated cost, 1,004l. 5s. 5d.), 229l. 5s. 3d.; machinery, 34l. 17s. 6d.; trade fixtures, fittings, utensils, &c., 44l. 6s.; book debts, good, 530l. 3s. 10d.; doubtful and bad, 294l. 11s. 11d., estimated to produce, 43l. 8s. 6d.; unpaid calls, 3l.; making 891l. 16s. 1d., from which 515l. 16s. 8d. has to be deducted for loans on debenture bonds, secured on the assets of the company, and 89l. 6s. 8d. for preference claims, which leaves 286l. 12s. 9d., and shows a deficiency of 3,114l. 2s. 2d. The following are amongst the creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Blake & Mackenzie, Liverpool ...	23	6	4
Breffitt, Edgar & Co., Castleford ...	13	8	2
Britannia Folding box Company (Limited), London ...	13	7	7
Browne, T., & Co., Nottingham ...	56	15	0
Chapprell, Jas., & Co., London ...	18	19	8
Evans, Sons & Co., Liverpool ...	27	2	0
Fraser & White, Liverpool ...	47	17	8
Graham, W. & Jno., & Co., London ...	20	15	5
Griffith, E., & Son, Birkenhead ...	82	10	6
Hudson, Scott & Sons, Carlisle ...	52	4	3
Indent, Proprietors of the, London ...	126	0	0
Johnson, Chas., & Co., Liverpool ...	38	8	1
McCaw, Stevenson & Orr (Limited), Belfast ...	32	12	4
McNullan, T., & Co., Belfast ...	21	12	0
Moody Brothers, Birmingham ...	100	0	0
Newnes, George (Limited), London ...	308	13	5
Nuttall & Co., St. Helens ...	16	11	8
Pascalls (Limited), London ...	14	3	4
Smith, Thos., London ...	22	13	4
Stanton, E. R., & Co., Liverpool ...	27	1	4
Stead, Taylor & Stead, Liverpool ...	57	18	4
Stevenson & Howell, London ...	73	8	3
Stiff, Jas., & Sons, London ...	12	1	3
Storry, Thos., & Sons, Liverpool ...	63	11	9
Stower, H. P., Wallasey ...	24	16	6
Wagstaff, Mrs., Liverpool ...	31	17	0
Waterlow & Sons (Limited), London ...	26	14	0
White & Pike, Birmingham ...	113	3	11
Willings & Co., London ...	396	12	10
Wilson, Dean & McMaster, Liverpool ...	82	18	3
Wilson, Jno., Shipley ...	195	15	2
Young & Co., Liverpool ...	67	13	0



*Re* HARRY COGILL, trading as Harrington & Co., Boston Avenue, Southend, Mineral-water Manufacturer.

THE public examination of this debtor was held on June 7 at the Chelmsford Bankruptcy Court. (For the statement of affairs see last issue, page 973.) Debtor now stated that he filed his petition in consequence of a writ being issued against him for 1,500*l.*, in respect of a loan. He considered the business was now worth about 7,000*l.*, and his profits during the last three years amounted to about 1,000*l.* per annum. The examination was adjourned.

*Re* JOSEPH CHAPELOW, Durham, Druggist and Aërated-water Manufacturer.

THIS debtor came up for examination at the Durham Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday. He stated that his gross profits had been 23 per cent. all round. His average takings had been 15*l.* a week for seven years. His trade expenses had been 822*l.*, and of this 294*l.* was for wages. He had not been an intemperate man. He had done a little horse-racing, but he had not lost any money at it. The examination was adjourned, and the debtor was ordered to furnish the correct figures of his deficiency account.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Fox, John**, 10 Charles Street, Hanley, mineral-water manufacturer. Dated June 2; filed June 7. Liabilities unsecured, 1,932*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* Composition of 10*s.* in the pound payable forthwith. The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Barnett & Foster, London ... ..	54	0	0
Boake, Roberts & Co., London ... ..	27	0	0
Brunt, W. M., & Co., Stoke-on-Trent ... ..	33	0	0
Clayton & Jowett, Liverpool ... ..	134	0	0
Manchester Chemical Company, Manchester ... ..	19	0	0
Marston, J., & Co., Birmingham ... ..	128	0	0
Ollivant & Brown, Shelton ... ..	84	0	0
Richards' Cork Manufacturing Company, London ... ..	46	0	0
Ryland Glass and Engineering Company, Barnsley ... ..	543	0	0
Tutill, A. G., & Co. (Limited), Liverpool ... ..	10	0	0
Bankers' claims ... ..	169	0	0

**Williams, Alfred Richard**, 12 The Avenue, Newton Abbott, and Teignmouth, veterinary surgeon. Trustee, Albert L. Honey, 23 Catherine Street, Exeter, chartered accountant. Dated June 9; filed June 11. Liabilities unsecured, 588*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*; estimated net assets, 285*l.* The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Furneaux, G., Newton Abbot ... ..	308	0	0
Hall & Son, Kingsteignton ... ..	26	0	0
Harvey, —, Bishopsteignton ... ..	12	0	0
Hewlett & Son, London ... ..	16	0	0
Luget Brothers, Exeter ... ..	17	0	0

## Gazette.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Ison, Harry John** (trading as Ison & Son), Shrewsbury, chemist.

#### ADJUDICATION.

**Rees, John**, Cardiff, chemist.

## New Companies & Company News.

**PATRIOTIC SOAP COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire from P. Villain certain patents relating to the manufacture of soap, and to carry on the business of soap and perfume manufacturers, &c. Registered without articles of association.

**LEWIS WING (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (1,800 preference). Objects: To acquire the business carried on by L. Wing, at Magdala Buildings, Regent Street, Weston-super-Mare, and to carry on at that address, and at Galen House, Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare, the business of chemists,

druggists, dealers in patent medicines and proprietary articles, &c. The subscribers are:—L. Wing, Rossmore Weston-super-Mare, chemist, with 10 shares; C. Clutterbuck 10 Magdala Buildings, Weston-super-Mare, chemist, with 10 shares; E. Marsh, Galen House, Weston-super-Mare, chemist, with 34 shares; D. Williams, 10 Magdala Buildings, Weston-super-Mare, chemist, with 1 share; W. Bennett, 2 Queen Street, Newton Abbot, chemist, with 34 shares; C. C. I. Davis, 90 Cotham Erow, Bristol, chemist, with 1 share; and M. Parker, 8 Crouch End Hill, N., chemist, with 1 share. The first directors are:—L. Wing (governing director), Clutterbuck, and J. S. Aplin; qualification 100*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company.

**IDRIS & CO. (LIMITED).**—A dividend of 6 per cent. has been declared on the A preference shares for the half-year ending April 30. Hitherto the dividends on these shares have been paid once a year.

**THE AMMONIA-ALKALI COMBINE.**—Two extraordinary general meetings were held on June 9 of Messrs. Bowma Thompson & Co. (Limited), Northwich, to confirm the sale to Messrs. Brunner, Mond & Co. for 350,410*l.* It was also resolved to wind up the company voluntarily, and Mr. Theodore S. Sheard, Liverpool, was appointed liquidator.

**SHARP BROTHERS' SOAP AND PERFUMERY COMPANY (LIMITED).**—The meeting of the creditors called for Tuesday, June 12, was not held, owing to the arrangement contemplated by Mr. Lowles having fallen through. A firm high standing has made a proposal to the liquidator, which has been put before the committee of creditors for consideration.

**EDWARD COOK & CO. (LIMITED).**—The second annual general meeting of the shareholders was held on June 8, at the East London Soapworks, Bow. Mr. H. J. Cook, J. (the chairman), said that the company had maintained the volume of their trade during the year, in spite of the variations which necessarily occurred in a manufacturing business. A piece of land adjoining the works had been sold for 20,000*l.* or something like 25 per cent. over the valuation price shown in the prospectus. The company still hold sufficient land along the River Lea to provide for any extensions of business which might be required. In the company's toys, soaps and specialties there had been a very satisfactory increased demand, and a large number of new accounts had been opened. The trade had been spread over a wider area, and the directors consequently believed it to be on a sound basis than ever. During the year they had been advertising more freely. After paying the debenture interest and preference dividend of 5 per cent. and setting aside 5,395*l.*, the sum of 2,309*l.* remained to be carried forward. The report was unanimously adopted.

**HOMOCEA (LIMITED).**—The fourth ordinary general meeting was held on June 8 at Winchester House. The Chairman (Mr. G. D. Jennings), in moving the adoption of the report (C. & D., June 9, page 974), admitted that the expenditure was higher in some directions than they liked, particularly on legal matters, which, however, had now been settled. The business had been placed on a satisfactory footing, and the purchase account, in consequence of the forfeiture of the shares referred to in the report (the old development account being also included in the settlement), was now reduced from 178,791*l.* to 144,535*l.* At the time of their last general meeting the company were surrounded by entanglements and encumbrances, but these had since been removed, and one by the cordial co-operation of all concerned. The trademarks had been transferred, and were now in the name of the company. The Indian business had been reorganised. The final result could be summed up in the fact that, whereas in the previous year a loss was shown of 564*l.*, a profit of 5,100*l.* was exhibited as the result of last year's working, and it was anticipated that the business would continue to expand. It was then moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded and carried. The Chairman, in reply to a shareholder, said that the new Indian licence had been obtained at a much lower figure than the former one, which cost 400*l.* a year.

**LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY (LIMITED).**—The thirty-fifth ordinary general meeting was held on June 7 at the Cannon Street Hotel. Mr. C. E. Gunther (Chairman) stated that the past year had been a good one. The sum of 60,000*l.*



which had been set aside out of the reserve fund some years ago for a specific purpose had been re-transferred to that fund. This amount, with the 10,000% now added, would bring the reserve fund up to 225,000%. Of this they proposed to give the shareholders 125,000% in the shape of 5 per cent. preference shares of 5% each. It was proposed also to increase the capital by creating 500,000% in 5% preference shares bearing 5 per cent. accumulative interest. The sum of 125,000% would be transferred from the reserve to capital account, and would pay for 25,000 shares presented to the proprietors at the rate of one preference share for each ordinary share. In addition to the ordinary reserve, the company had a special insurance fund of over 50,000%. The board further proposed to give all the proprietors the option of subscribing at par for another preference share for each ordinary share they now hold. This would give 125,000% additional working capital, and the remainder of the preference shares to be created would remain uninsured until a fresh development arose. The purchase of 200,000 acres of land, which would carry over 50,000 head of cattle, had been completed, and the company now hold and rent about 500,000 acres of the finest grazing-land on the River Plate, carrying more than 150,000 breeding cattle. As to business, the sales went on increasing, notwithstanding the keen competition. Exceptionally large shipments had been made to the South African Field Force, but these special Government transactions had not materially affected the profits, the price having been kept as low as possible. The directors had thought it right not only to subscribe to the war and the refugees' funds, but also to make grants in kind to the Red Cross Society, and to most of the hospitals which had been promoted by public and private enterprise. He felt sure that the shareholders would approve these acts, especially in times of prosperity like the present. He concluded by moving the adoption of the report, in which a final dividend of 15 per cent. was recommended, making 20 per cent. for the year. Mr. W. Mallinckrodt seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. An extraordinary general meeting was held subsequently at which a resolution was passed for increasing the capital as mentioned.

## Trade Notes.

IN connection with the Chemists' Exhibition to be held in Manchester next week, Holloway's Wine Company (Limited) offer to pay the railway-fare to Manchester of anyone within a radius of 120 miles of Manchester who goes to the exhibition and buys wine from them.

TEN THOUSAND POUNDS is the sum which the Vinolia Company (Limited) have now handed over to the Warwidows' Fund, and it is done with an absent-minded air worthy of the millionaires that they are—in soap-tablets, at least—5,000,000 vinolia tablets being represented by the amount.

**SPONGE EXHIBITION.**—Messrs. Cresswell Brothers & Schmitz, sponge-importers, Red Lion Square, W.C., announce that they will have a special show of all kinds of sponges at Moseley Hotel, Manchester, from June 13 to June 23, and they invite inspection of their stock by all local chemists. Mr. Henry Cohen will be in charge.

**PROTECTING "SANITAS" PRICES.**—The Sanitas Company (Limited) have decided that after July 1 their 1s. preparations shall be retailed at not less than 11½d. each and others at *pro rata* prices. The company have also adjusted their terms of supply to yield an increased profit to the retailer. Full particulars of the scheme will be found in our advertising-columns.

A GOOD example of Mr. F. W. Sears' skill in designing advertisements comes to us from *Moonshine*. It is a sixteen-page booklet with a clever cover—fairly babies fishing by the light of the moon—and the inside pages are about the staff of *Moonshine* (who do not wear wings) and the paper which they produce. Mr. Sears manages to say and show the best of it effectively and not effusively—which is half the art of advertising.

A PAGE ADVERTISEMENT of Colton's gelatin pill-coating machine in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* attracted

attention last week. Mr. Arthur Colton, of Detroit, who makes this and other pharmaceutical machines, is a gifted inventor, and his machinery has played its part in the production of American elegant pharmacy. Mr. Colton makes pill, capsule-filling, tablet, suppository, and other pharmaceutical machinery, and those interested should write to him for his illustrated catalogue.

## Marriages.

**BAILEY—FRASER.**—At Glasgow, on June 7, by the Rev., D. J. Moir-Porteous, B.D., assisted by the Rev. R. L. Browning, Mid-Calder, Edwin Melhuish Bailey, chemist, Pumpherston Oilworks, to Jeanie Paul Fraser, Mid-Calder.

**MOLSON—JENNINGS.**—On June 11, at the Parish Church, Spalding, Algernon H. Molson, chemist and druggist, Spalding, to Ada, daughter of Mr. George Jennings.

**PARKINSON—LUND.**—At the "Orchard" United Methodist Free Church, Preston, on June 7, by the Rev. Ormerod Greenwood, Robert Holroyd Parkinson, chemist and druggist, North Road, Preston (formerly of Blackburn), to Jeanie, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Lund, engineer, Preston.

**QUINCEY—NICHOLS.**—On June 12, at All Saints', Long Ashton, by the Rev. Lucius Deering, Bertram de Quincey, youngest son of Mr. Roger de Quincey Quincey, of Oakwood, Chislehurst, and 143 Fenchurch Street, E.C., to Mary Frances, only daughter of the late Mr. George Nichols, of Clifton.

**THOMSON—LITTLEJOHN.**—On June 6, at Trinity Free Church, Aberdeen, by the Rev. Douglas Ferrier, M.A., Free Church, Bothwell, assisted by the Rev. Donald N. Dow, M.A., Trinity Free Church, Aberdeen, Allen Bernard, son of John M. Thomson, LL.D., F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry, King's College, London, to Alice Maud, youngest daughter of James D. Littlejohn, Aberdeen.

**WESTLAKE—AINSWORTH.**—At Derby, on June 7, George Frederick Westlake, chemist and druggist, Cancer Hospital, London, to Winifred Beatrice Ainsworth, of Derby.

## Deaths.

**ALTHAUS.**—Dr. Julius Althaus, consulting physician to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, died on June 11, at 26 Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, W. Aged 67. He was born at Detmold, in Germany, in 1833, studied medicine at the University of Göttingen, and afterwards at Heidelberg and Berlin. He took his degree of Doctor of Medicine at Berlin, and ultimately came to London, assisting Dr. Todd in the electrical treatment of patients at King's College Hospital. In 1830 he became a member of the Royal College of Physicians, and as a consultant specialised in diseases of the nervous system. In 1866 he founded the Regent's Park Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, which enjoys the distinction of being the first hospital in the world where a brain-tumour was diagnosed, accurately located, and successfully removed by a surgical operation.

**BATES.**—On June 10, suddenly, at 38 George Street, Oldham, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Mr. Hiram Bates, chemist and druggist. Aged 57.

**DRIFFIELD.**—On June 3, Mr. Thomas Driffield, chemist and druggist, Spilsby. Aged 86. Mr. Driffield was a native of Hull, and commenced business at High Street, Spilsbury, sixty-nine years ago, from which he retired in 1837; his son, Mr. Robert Driffield, chemist and druggist, has since carried it on.

**FOULIS.**—At 7 Inveresk Road, Musselburgh, on June 7, Mr. John Foulis, chemist.

**FRYER.**—Suddenly, on June 8, Mr. C. H. Fryer, dispenser, Holborn Union Infirmary, Highgate, N. Mr. Fryer had previously been a dispenser in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, at St. Olave's, and other Poor-law dispensaries. Death occurred while he was at his post and apparently in the best of health.

**THARRATT.**—At 55 Myrtle Street, Liverpool, on June 4, Lucy Ellen, wife of Mr. George R. Tharratt, the dearly-loved pharmaceutical chemist.

## Scientific Progress.

**A New Essential Oil.**—Perrier has described the oil obtained by distilling the green leaves and twigs of chrysanthemums, which he found yielded 0.16 per cent. (*Bull. Soc. Chem.*, 1900, 216). It is a greenish oil with an odour of mint and chamomile, of sp. gr. 0.932, and refractive index 1.4931. It is very insoluble in alcohol, and contains a stearoptene (probably one or more of the paraffin hydrocarbons), esters, and aldehydes.

**Preparation of Salol Homologues.**—According to Cohn, the higher homologues of salol can be easily prepared by heating ordinary salol (phenyl salicylate) with the higher phenols. The reaction takes place as follows:—

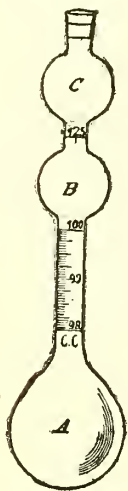
$C_6H_4(OH)(COOC_6H_5) + R'OH = C_6H_4(OH)(COOR') + C_6H_5OH$ , where R' is a higher phenol radicle. The yield is good, and the product is easy of purification.—*Pharm. Zeit.*, xlv. 426.

**Chemistry of the Glucosides.**—Votocek has recently examined a large number of the better-known glucosides with a view to definitely determining the variety of sugar which is present in the molecule (*Pharm. Zeit.*, 1900, 239). He distilled the glucosides with 12 per cent. hydrochloric acid, and examined the distillate to determine whether furfuraldehyde or its homologues was present. He proves that the sugar present in the following glucosides is either glucose or one of the isomeric six carbon sugars: aesculin, arbutin, apiin, phloridzin, gratiolin, jalapin, ononin, and syringin; whilst in saponin, cyclamin, chinovin, hesperidin, and xanthorhamnin methyl pentoses are present, probably together with hexoses. In convolvulin and solanin a considerable quantity of methyl pentose is present.

**Chemistry of Borneol.**—The differences between borneol and isoborneol have long been a matter of much conjecture amongst chemists, and the recent contribution to the question by Semmler (*Berichte*, 1900, 774) will be welcomed by those interested. He shows that when isoborneol is reduced with powdered zinc at a high temperature, camphene and dihydrocamphene are formed. The latter crystallises from alcohol in leaf-like groups, melting at 85° C., and boiling at 162° C. Under similar conditions borneol is not acted upon. The inference is that borneol is a secondary, whilst isoborneol is a tertiary, alcohol. This entirely breaks down the view which has long been held in some quarters that these two bodies are merely stereoisomeric. Structural formulæ are given, but for these the original paper above quoted should be consulted.

**Estimation of Essential Oils in Drugs.**—Wender and Gregor (*Oest. Chemiker Zeit.*, 1900, x.) have devised the following process for determining the quantity of essential oils in drugs, but no evidence is adduced to show whether it is accurate or not. The apparatus consists of a flask, A (see illustration), with a neck 2 centimetres long, divided into  $\frac{20}{100}$  c.c. The top of the neck is drawn out into another flask (B) with a graduated mark. The lower flask holds, to the top of the graduated neck, 100 c.c., and the upper flask holds 25 c.c. The upper flask is continued into a third bulb, C, to assist the shaking. Ten grammes (20 grammes if the drug be poor in oil) of the coarsely-powdered drug is extracted by maceration for six hours with 70 c.c. of 96-per-cent. alcohol. A second maceration with 25 c.c. is sufficient to exhaust, and the mixed liquids are made up to 100 c.c. in the flask. The temperature must be very carefully adjusted in a water-bath to, say, 20° C., and 25 c.c. of petroleum ether (sp. gr. 0.640 to 0.670) is added. After well shaking for five minutes, and allowing the liquids to completely separate, the volume is read off. Each division corresponds to 0.05 c.c. of essential oil.

**Ionone.**—Ordinary ionone can be separated into its stereoisomeric forms in the following manner (*Chemiker Zeitung*, 1900, 490):—The oily liquid is heated with alkaline bisulphite and acetic acid (in the proportion of two molecules of the former to one of the latter) until entirely dissolved. The liquid is shaken with ether to free it from impurities, and the residual solution is distilled in a current of steam, when beta-ionone passes over. It can be purified best by means of its semicarbazone. The remaining liquid is treated in several ways to recover the alpha-ionone—(1) Render it alkaline with  $Na_2CO_3$  and distil in a current of steam; (2) render alkaline with alkaline hydroxide, and extract with ether; or (3) after heating with soda or potash the product can be steam distilled. To purify the alpha compound the oxime is the best derivative available. If the beta ionone is present in very small quantity, the bisulphite solution may be concentrated, when the greater part of the alpha-ionone crystallises out, and the solution can then be treated in the above manner.



## The Dispensing-counter.

### Some Australian Difficulties.

By T. E. TURNER, Auburn, Vic.

I HAVE noted the following during the past few years, and send them for the benefit of dispensers in the Old Country who may not have met exactly the same prescriptions:—

Acid. benzoic. ... 3ij.  
Aq. ad ... 3xij.

Ft. mist. S.A.

The quantity of water was not sufficient for solution, so pulv. tragac. co. 3j. was added.

Acid. chromic. ... 5j.  
S.V.R. ad ... 3j.

Ft. applic. m.d.u.

This was explosive, so aq. destillat. was used instead of S.V.R.

Quin. sulph. ... gr. xvij.  
Mag. sulph. ... 3iv.  
Tr. ferri perchlor. ... 3iij.  
Acid. phosph. dil. ... 3iss.  
Glycerin. ... 5ij.  
Liq. strychnine ... m80  
Inf. quassiae ad ... 3viiij.

Ft. mist.

Ferric phosphate (insoluble in the presence of magnesium sulphate) was formed. Precipitation is unavoidable, but was retarded by adding acid. phosph. dil. last.

Alum. sulph.,  
Zinci sulph.... partes aequales

Ft. pencill. 2½ inches long.  
Mitte vj.

The bougie-mould was well greased, sufficient quantities of the salts were fused in a crucible, and then run into the mould.

Antipyrin. ... 3ss.  
Aluminis ... 3j.  
Aq. ad ... 3iv.

Ft. mist.

A yellow coloration was noticed.

Ammon. bromid. ... 3v.  
Tr. ferri perchlor. ... 3iij.  
Tr. nucis vom. ... 3ij.  
Spt. chlorof. ... 3j.  
Aq. ad ... 3iv.

Ft. mist.

Bromine is at once liberated, and would be dangerous; therefore the prescription was referred back to the doctor, with the result that the iron was left out.

Acid. nit. mur. dil. ... 3iiss.  
Ammon. bromid. ... 3ij.  
Spt. chlorof. ... 3iiss.  
Tr. nucis vom. ... 3ij.  
Inf. gent. co. ad ... 3viiij.

Ft. mist.

Referred back to the prescriber, as the free chlorine in the acid. nit. mur. dil. liberates bromine; ac. nit. dil. was substituted, then added last.

Caffeinae ... gr. 32  
Sodii salicyl. ... 3ij.  
Aq. chlorof. ad ... 3iv.

Ft. mist. 3ss. pro dose.

This was a good prescription

but taken to a second pharmacy caffeine. cit. was used, which resulted in deposition of salicylic acid and caused return to No. 1.

Caffeinae ... gr. xvij.  
Liq. hyd. perchlor. ... 3j.  
Potass. iodid. ... 3ss.  
Aq. ad ... 3viiij.

Ft. mist.

This is a good prescription as caffeine is the one official alkaloid not precipitated by Mayer's reagent.

Glyc. acid. tannici ... 3iv.  
Glyc. aluminis ... 3iv.

M. Ft. glyc. m.d.u. pro lo

A darkening in colour was noticed, probably due to presence of ferrous sulphate in the alum.

Sol. hyd. biniodid. (1 in 5,000) ... 3xvij.

Ft. lotio.

Hyd. iod. rub. 14 gr. was weighed out and dissolved with 2 gr. pot. iod.

Pot. bromid. ... gr. ij  
Hyd. subchlor. ... gr. ij

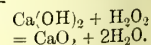
Ft. pulv. Statim sumen

For child teething. Turn greenish owing to formation Hg<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>. Had frequently to be dispensed, as medical man refused to alter, saying he had good results from it.

Liq. hydrarg. perox. ... 3ij.  
Liq. calcis ad ... 3ij.

Ft. nebul. For the throat.

A precipitate was observed probably of calcium peroxide, thus—



Emuls. iodoformi (10%) 3iv

Ft. applic. m.d.u.

Schering's precipitated used and 40 gr. of pulv. trag. co. was found sufficient to emulsify the 175 gr. of iodoform.

Jodi ... gr.  
Syr. Eastoni ... mxx  
Ol. jecoris aselli ad ... 3j.

Mitte 3vj.

The  $\frac{4}{10}$  of iodine was solved in sufficient ether (with the consent of the prescriber) and shaken through the lastly the syr. Eastoni ad led.





**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

#### Pharmaceutical Tinctures.

SIR,—If Mr. J. C. McWalter refers to my paper on tinctures, published in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of January 26, 1899, he will find that it expressly stated that the accuracy of the special hydrometers used for determining the sp. grs. therein given was first checked by the balance.

The tinctures of the B.P., 1885, being practically obsolete, it is unnecessary for me now to substantiate the figures against which Mr. McWalter is candid enough to "own to a prejudice." But I may remark in passing that not only has their accuracy never been challenged, but, until the publication of the new Pharmacopœia, the Table was in constant use in the Government Laboratory at Somerset House. Mr. McWalter states that he has "quite lost confidence" in hydrometers, owing to the "appalling differences between gravimetric and hydrometric indications of sp. gr." Irrelevant critics may regard Mr. McWalter's conclusion as somewhat of a *non sequitur*. Still, for present purposes it may be assumed that Mr. McWalter's gravimetric results are all right, and his hydrometric results all wrong. Does this condemn the hydrometric method, or only Mr. McWalter's hydrometer? Some people's idea of a hydrometer is that of a corpulent instrument with a scale ranging through about 500 degrees, and which, although only graduated into tens, is expected to accurately register sp. grs. to the third decimal, place. Another desideratum is that it shall not cost more than a shilling. Is it surprising that with such conditions to satisfy, the conflicting character of the evidence afforded should stagger other observers besides Mr. McWalter?

The instrument known as the thermo-hydrometer contents itself with a range of 50 degrees, and the scale can consequently be easily read to within half a degree, or the fourth place of decimals. I do not for a moment contend that for important scientific data even the thermo-hydrometer should take the place of the balance; but for all ordinary pharmaceutical work the readings are sufficiently exact for practical purposes, and, as Sir William Gull once remarked to me, "We don't want a razor to cut beefsteak."

I have not attempted to criticise Mr. McWalter's figures, but it would be interesting to know how he arrives at the sp. gr. of 0.927 for tr. quassia, when the sp. gr. of the menstruum to start with is 0.9436. Tr. camph. co. he makes 0.927, against Umney's 0.915; tr. cinnamomi 0.939, against Umney's 0.899; and tr. ergot. ammon. 0.963, against Umney's 0.935! If such discordant results are really possible with one and the same tincture, public analysts are going to have a bad time of it.

Mr. McWalter is of opinion that in the next Pharmacopœia we shall be favoured with the limits between which the sp. gr. of a tincture may vary, and also with the percentage of residue left after evaporating. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished, but, as a preliminary, would it not be desirable to settle upon some less inconsistent and slipshod directions for preparing the tinctures? The combined method of maceration, percolation, pressure, and filtration adopted in the Pharmacopœia of 1885 was not more cumbersome than one would expect, and it had the merit of insuring a certain amount of uniformity, inasmuch as the final product was made up to a definite volume. But in the present Pharmacopœia the tinctures prepared by maceration may measure anything, the determining factors being the quantities of material operated upon, and the amount of pressure exerted in the marc.

Again, take the tinctures prepared by the so-called percolation process. If one wanted a specimen of the "jobbing" work, which is perhaps the chief characteristic

of the present Pharmacopœia, it would be hardly possible to give a better illustration than this. We are told with a punctiliousness of phraseology, which Mr. Weller would have described as "werging on the poetic," to "allow percolation to proceed, slowly at first, and afterwards less slowly, until a sufficient quantity of the menstruum has been used to produce about three-fourths of the volume of the finished tincture, or until exhaustion of the solid materials has been effected." The author of the process evidently took for granted that "about three-fourths of the volume" was sufficient for complete exhaustion. It does not seem to have occurred to him that whilst 15 oz. of alcohol may exhaust 1 oz. of aconite-root, or 1 oz. of arnica, it will be altogether insufficient to exhaust 4 oz. of buchu-leaves, or the same quantity of senega-root. If, therefore, percolation be continued "until exhaustion of the solid materials has been effected," the finished tincture will in many cases measure more nearly 30 than 15 oz., so that, unless the operator can perform the classical feat of squeezing a quart of liquid into a pint pot, it is difficult to understand how "the resulting tincture should measure one pint."

Why, too, if the principle of percolation be recognised, should not the process be carried out in its entirety? It is not more difficult to collect twenty volumes of percolate than fifteen; in fact, it is vastly less trouble than turning out the marc and applying mechanical pressure. If it be objected that some spirit would remain absorbed by the marc, and therefore lost, the same difficulty has to be surmounted in the case of fluid extracts, and sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Immediately on the publication of the 1898 Pharmacopœia, I prepared a series of the new tinctures by the rational method of entire percolation, and subsequently made determinations of sp. grs., spirit strengths, and solid residues. But it was obviously useless to publish these as standards, since, owing to the laxity of official methods, no two samples of tincture could be expected to correspond.

It would be highly interesting to compare the results communicated by individual pharmacists in response to the circular issued by the Registrar of the Irish Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. J. C. McWalter deserves thanks for publishing the results of his investigations; and I trust he may be elected to serve on the next Pharmacopœial Committee. He confesses to a prejudice against statements which he has not examined, so that he evidently possesses one of the first qualifications for such a post. Yours faithfully,

June 11.

FRED. W. FLETCHER.

#### "Seeing the Thing Through."

SIR,—The recent election has constituted a march of such proportions in the direction of an ultimate pharmaceutical triumph that it is, perhaps, hardly to be wondered at that we now find ourselves in the soothing embrace of a temporary calm. Did we not believe that we are fighting, not only for the present, but for the whole future of pharmacy in this country, most of us would prefer to remain in this state of soothing inaction; but because we believe we are fighting in the interests of the future for all that is upright, and honourable, and just, we are resolved "to see the thing through." I have been flouted by the "do-nothing party" because I use the word "we," not being a member of the Council; but the great "we" of pharmacy is made up of the whole rank and file of the drug-trade. It is not I who presume by using the word "we," seeing I belong to the rank and file, but the "do-nothing party" presumes when it arrogates to itself a proprietary right in the pharmaceutical "we," seeing it has represented no section of the drug-trade outside itself during thirty years or more.

It is not unlikely that the present calm will exist for some considerable time so far as Parliament is concerned. No doubt the Companies Bill would have been up long ago had it not been for the unsettled state of Parliament over the war; as it is, it is doubtful if it will come up before a general election. This gives the new Council a fine and unexpected opportunity to rectify the mistakes which have been made in tactics. It is to be hoped that the pause will be turned to good account for the reorganising of forces, the strengthening of feeble knees, and the formulating of a workable policy. It is also to be hoped that the Council will give a good, strong, definite, vigorous lead—a lead which can be



supported and followed up by the rank and file throughout the country. Although we of the rank and file consider that we constitute the real pharmaceutical force of this country, we also consider that we have placed men on the Council for the purpose of leading and guiding us, and members of the Council may be quite sure that as soon as they formulate a reasonable, workable scheme, they will have the whole body of chemists behind them. It is true that there are now before the country a Bloomsbury Square policy, a Blackburn policy, an Edinburgh policy, a Cannon Street policy, and a host of other policies, all more or less likely to meet with success, but I do not think that any party will stand out for one minute against any policy which meets with the support of the majority. The reason why the Council has not done anything so far has been that it has not adopted a policy which could be accepted by a majority of chemists.

It appears to me that in fixing on a policy we ought to bear in mind that two mistakes are hampering us. Throughout the country there is a feeling that we are at war with the limited-liability principle, and at Bloomsbury Square the word "protection" must not be breathed until the doors are closed and the windows are fastened carefully. Now it must be distinctly understood by those *bona-fide* drug-firms which have availed themselves of the Limited Liability Act that we do not object to the principle of this Act at all. Even if we wished to object the time for doing so is long since passed. We accept the limited-liability principle as applied to pharmacy so long as it does not subvert the aim of the Pharmacy Act, which is distinctly this: that the whole retail traffic in scheduled poisons shall be in the hands of qualified men absolutely, and if a limited-liability company can be formed without overthrowing this principle we have nothing to say. Most of the limited companies at present existing, however, constitute a direct subversion of this principle, in so far as they tend to throw the whole retail traffic in poisons into the hands of men not properly qualified.

The Bloomsbury Square authorities are also making a mistake in being too careful not to ask for a monopoly. We ought rather to train members of Parliament to see that a licensed chemist has no more of a monopoly in drugs than a licensed publican has in drink. To confine a certain trade to properly licensed men (whether by examination or payment of a sum of money) does not constitute a monopoly. Special licence in accordance with a Parliamentary Act ought certainly to place a man above the clamour over what is called free trade. The trade is still free, but only to properly licensed men. This appears to me to be the logical view of the situation.

Dumfries, June 11.

JAMES REID.

#### Trade-mark Law.

SIR,—The recent decision in regard to the infringement of our trade-marks, and the de-registration of the mark "Black Drink," prompt us to call attention to the most unsatisfactory condition of the trade-mark law.

In our case, this title of "Black Drink" was for the first time invented and used in 1840, and it has been used by our firm ever since; and though used as something distinctively belonging to Day & Sons, and registered in our late principal's lifetime, it was struck off the register because the occult and curious requirements of the trade-mark law had not in some way—we do not even now know what would have been the right way—been satisfied. And the other trade-mark for the following technicality:—That in the two top corners of the label we had a little device, and the words "Registered trade-mark" underneath. This is a mark that goes on all our goods, and we had failed to say at the foot, "This label is a registered trade-mark"—a thing that would not strike the lay mind as being altogether necessary; but, at any rate, not having done it, one would think there would be permission to amend.

Yours faithfully,

Crewe, June 12.

DAY & SONS.

#### Dentists' Advertising.

SIR,—I should be pleased to see the case of Mr. Oglesby and the General Medical Council submitted to the opinion of the Law Courts, because I consider that gentleman to have been most harshly and arbitrarily dealt with, and that the Council are showing a disposition to go far beyond their

duties as a school of discipline. With this object I shall be happy to subscribe 10*l.* towards the fund if it is decided to fight the case. At the same time, I do not think there is foundation for the apprehension evidenced in some quarters that advertising by dentists is to be suppressed altogether. The Council must be well aware that, whatever their inclination, they have not the power and dare not take a step which would amount virtually to confiscation as regards many old-established and respectable businesses. Moderate and honestly-worded advertisements cannot be held to be an offence, although "objectionable" practices, whether in regard to advertising or any other matter, obviously could be construed as such infamous conduct as to render a dentist liable to be struck off the register. But the Council must be made to recognise that to constitute a crime the advertisements must be "objectionable" from a practical and not merely a sentimental point of view.

Yours truly,

AN ADVERTISER. (104/46.)

SIR,—After reading your reports and comments on the recent action of the General Medical Council with respect to advertising by dentists, I think there should be some steps taken at once in order to ascertain if they were justified in the proceedings they have taken. I shall be pleased to subscribe my guinea towards the fund, and double it if required, and I hope you will soon have plenty of others to follow suit.

Yours truly,

DENTIST. (104/42.)

#### Concerning Copper in Peas.

SIR,—You reported last session in your columns some remarkable statements of Mr. J. Rutherford Hill concerning the large proportion of copper which he found in nuxvomica.

Now, in a journal sent me to-day I find that a person was prosecuted for selling garden peas containing 1.7 gr. of copper to the pound. This would mean about 1 to 4,000, whereas Mr. Hill found, I think, thirty to forty times that quantity naturally present in nuxvomica.

I should like to ask him if he has ever estimated the quantity of copper naturally present in peas. Of course, the albuminates of the metals do not give the ordinary reactions for them, and this fact, frequently overlooked, has given rise to the most divergent statements.

It is not, I know, strictly a pharmaceutical question; but the operation of the Food and Drugs Acts makes it necessary for chemists to prime themselves on questions under it which may be only on the borderland of pharmacy.

Yours truly,

June 13.

D. P. H.

#### The Medical Preliminary Examination.

SIR,—The article on the above in the last issue of the *C. & D.* is most timely. The subject is one in which, as Chairman of a School Board and on account of my connection with the framing of the regulations for the new Pharmaceutical Preliminary, I have taken special interest; and it is with a feeling of great satisfaction that I notice how ample is the justification for the position taken up by the joint committee of the examiners in insisting that the certificates must be accepted, even though they were taken at two examinations.

Perhaps you will allow me to refer to the controversy I had with the editor of a contemporary a year ago, when that gentleman's sense of duty compelled him to refuse publication of my letters, but permitted him to select detached passages, to which he replied in his editorial columns. His original offence was this remark in reference to the acceptance of certain Scotch certificates: "It cannot be denied, however, that the system of passing Preliminary examinations on a kind of monthly-instalment principle is a curious commentary on the higher standard of elementary education which is supposed—with far from conclusive evidence—to prevail generally in Scotland." The imputation in this sentence that the Scotch certificates were inferior to those of England and Wales was naturally resented on account of its glaring injustice, not to speak of the sneer at national sentiment, and consequently I tried, though in vain, to get a withdrawal of the unfair remark. How far removed it was from the truth must now be clear even to the most



prejudiced. The certificates which answered to the editor's ponderously humorous "monthly-installment" comment are the Higher-grade Leaving Certificates, with reference to which the educational experts of the Medical Council use the almost extravagantly laudatory language, quoted by you last week, to the effect that the standard is "much higher than that of Preliminary or Matriculation examination in any faculty of any University with which we are acquainted." This, observe, is the Scotch "elementary education" that your contemporary sneers at. If Scotch elementary education is of this character, Englishmen will wonder what our advanced education is like! With further reference to the position of education in Scotland, which the editor thinks is so very much overrated, the position assigned to the Scotch Lower-grade Leaving Certificate, which is the lowest certificate issued in our secondary schools, is a sufficient answer. In the opinion of the committee appointed by the General Medical Council that examination "ranks highest" of all the sixteen junior examinations on the Council's list, and, further, it is of a higher standard than some of the examinations hitherto regarded by the Medical Council as senior examinations. Among other examinations inferior to it is the College of Preceptors' First-class examination, and consequently the Lower-grade Leaving Certificate is a very long way superior to the College of Preceptors' Second-class examination, which is not accepted by the Medical Council, though it has been retained among those recognised by the Pharmaceutical Society. In spite of this fact, the Pharmaceutical Society are refusing to accept Lower-grade Certificates for five subjects—Latin, English, arithmetic, algebra, and Euclid—all passed at one examination, and insisting that the candidates must sit for the greatly inferior examination of the Society next month. It is impossible to conceive of such utter hide-bound red-tapeism outside of—well, outside of the War Office! No wonder your contemporary fought shy of the details of the experts' report in his colourless annotations last week.

Still another remark, if you will allow me space to mention it. When, early last year, I realised the injury that would be done to higher education in Scotland through the Lower-grade Leaving Certificates being placed in an unfair position in relation to other examinations, I took what steps I could to have the decision of the Medical Council altered. Drawing up a memorandum on the subject, I forwarded copies to several likely quarters, and, among others, to Sir Henry Craik, head of the Scotch Education Department. This was in March, 1899, some months before the appointment of the committee of educational experts was ever brought off by the Medical Council. Sir Henry sent me a very courteous acknowledgment, but remarked that the Department had no control over the Medical Council. Satisfied that the matter was in the best possible hands, I looked forward with every expectation that the mistake could be rectified, but I certainly never anticipated such a signal triumph as has actually been achieved for my view of the question.

Yours truly,

THOS. MABEN.

West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, Glasgow, June 12.

#### Otto of Rose.

SIR,—I have read with interest the paper on "Otto of rose" by Mr. Henry Garnett in your issue of June 9, and as he refers to my figures several times I desire to reply to some of his remarks. Although oil of "geranium" (Indian) is the common adulterant of otto in Bulgaria, it has become not uncommon practice to add some of the solid oil of *Palnesia sarmienti*, often known as guaiacum-wood oil, and of somewhat fine tea-rose odour. Mr. Garnett gives the limits of specific gravity of the samples which he has examined, and which he believes are genuine, as 0.8525 and 0.8575, and takes exception to the B.P. limits of 0.856 and 0.860, and to mine 0.855-0.865. Inferentially, Mr. Garnett refers the lower-gravity oils. It is interesting to note here that the odourless stearoptene is the constituent of the oil having the lowest specific gravity. I think that Mr. Garnett should give the full details of the "other evidence of sophistication" of oils of specific gravity outside his limits. I know of no one who has had much experience of otto of rose who would fix such close limits as these, and, indeed, oils distilled in Germany and in France, which often contain a very large quantity of stearoptene, most certainly

fall between as wide limits as 0.845 and 0.870. Bulgarian distilled oils, of course, do not, but my experience (aided by the kindness of Mr. Seraphimoff, of Kazanlik, who has sent me specially-distilled samples) is entirely against the figures given by Mr. Garnett. Schimmel & Co. are also quite in discord with Mr. Garnett. I do not give +1° as the rotation of Bulgarian ottos in my book—indeed, I have never met with a dextrorotatory pure sample at all. But Schimmel & Co. have distilled roses grown on their own farms at Mileitz, the oil from which possessed rotations of +1° to -1°. It is so easy to bring up the congealing-point by a degree or two that Mr. Garnett's limits of 19.5° to 22° really allow quite as much scope for adulteration as do limits a degree or so wider each way. It would be quite unsafe to fix limits depending on the amount of stearoptene present, which is known to be very variable from any one observer's figures. Schimmel regards 18° to 21° as covering most Bulgarian samples of pure origin. One occasionally meets with samples, however, with a little lower congealing-point, and I consider 17° to 23° are very safe limits, and it would be very risky to condemn a sample as a congealing-point of 18°. Of course it might not be B.P. oil, but it might still be pure.

Yours truly,

134 Upper Thames Street, E.C., ERNEST J. PARRY.  
June 9.

#### Education the Only Remedy.

SIR,—Precisely! Your editorial remarks on Mr. McCrea's letter last week are undoubtedly the truth, and you might repeat them with advantage. The State has imposed upon us certain conditions, but not offered us corresponding privileges. This is absolutely and obviously unfair. If you employ a "competent" person he expects a "competent" salary—where there are responsibilities there should be corresponding benefits. It appears to me the State, whilst giving us the burden of the former, has cruelly neglected the ensuring of the latter. Hence the sad state of the business of many a chemist and druggist in these woeful times!

I am, yours faithfully,

"FIAT JUSTITIA, &C.!" (101/56.)

#### The Minor Failures.

SIR,—The attention of several leading pharmacists has been drawn to your figures on the Minor examination results, and reasons for such a deplorable state of things solicited. From what one can gather the high percentages of failure are due in a great measure to the employment of examiners, notably in botany and chemistry, who have no sympathy with pharmacists and their work. In their questions they shoot above the heads of the candidates, trotting out faddish notions on ecology, symbiosis, and permeation in one branch, and the formation of acetamide, the sketching of right rhombic prisms, and the manufacture of ferro-manganese in the other branch, with which the pharmacist has as much to be acquainted as the dog in the street has to know of his "faither" as far as "business" is concerned. They say, Will you tell me what a pharmacist wants to know about marine algae and mycology? What has argon to do with the sale of Beecham's pills or Neave's food? What has the atomic theory and valency to do with the sale of Epsom salts at 1d. per lb.? What is required is men so trained that they can conduct their business to the satisfaction of their *clientèle*, so that they may gain the confidence of the medical profession, and so conduct themselves that they command the esteem and respect of their fellow-townsmen. They should be taught to rise above all petty jealousies of which one hears so much to-day, and to join in the complete banishment of apathy amongst their fellows.

Yours truly,

BRUM. (29/99.)

#### "Opened": What it Means.

A druggist's traveller in the East, writing to a friend from Singapore, says:—"The *C. & D.* presents a very clean, natty appearance these days, and I find that it is very generally appreciated and opened. The latter expression means much, for the number of periodicals I find lying in offices and on medicos' desks unopened sometimes prompts the query, Why are they there? But I suppose, opened or otherwise, they are mute companions."

### Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

98/15. *Seidlitz*.—There is nothing to prevent you selling sweetened seidlitz-powders, provided you make the fact perfectly clear that they contain something additional to the B.P. ingredients—*e.g.*, "Seidlitz-powders, guaranteed to contain the active ingredients of the British Pharmacopœia powder, with the addition of a harmless flavouring-ingredient." The purchaser's attention must be called to this. We do not overlook the fact that "seidlitz-powder" is not a B.P. synonym, but a foot-note, and the legal significance of that has not been contested. It suffices for your purpose to know that people have been fined for selling seidlitz-powders which were not B.P.

102/65. *Magnesia* packs 1*d.* boxes of carbonate of magnesia, labels them "Best magnesia," and asks us if he is incurring any risk of prosecution. Considering that many have been fined for using the simple word "magnesia" in the same case, his chance of getting off is not increased by adding the word "best."

101/45. *Nemo*.—The employment by a druggist of a girl to pack goods will bring the place wherein she works under the Factories and Workshops Acts, as such place is a workshop within the meaning of the Act—*i.e.*, a place where articles are made, altered, repaired, finished or adapted for sale by means of manual labour exercised for gain.

99/29. *Curious*.—The procedure for the recovery of penalties in Scotland under the Pharmacy Act, 1858, Section 15, is specified to be as provided in the 1852 Act, and failing payment of fine and costs the Sheriff may give a warrant to levy and recover the amount by pouncing. That could not be done in the case you mention, because the only effects were necessary personal apparel. In England the recovery is effected under the provisions of any Act in force for the recovery of small debts.

104/2. *C. I.*—The payment of rent has nothing to do with the time of giving notice for determining a tenancy. Six months' notice must be given in England by either party.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

91/59. *C. D.*—The "Certain Cure" for Eczema is made by mixing approximately equal parts of zinc ointment, lanoline, and vaseline. A little oil of citronella is also present.

89/61. *Bobs*.—Cochineal is a harmless colour for raspberry jams, but some of the cheaper brands are not innocent of aniline dyes.

90/46. *Still*.—The name of the maker of the Rapid Water-still was given when the apparatus was described (*C. & D.*, April 28, 1900, page 736). It is not an expensive piece of apparatus.

90/20. *Wills*.—(1) Seltzogene-powders:—

Tartaric acid	... 3 pint.	5 pint.
	3v. 9j.	3j. 9ij.
or		
Citric acid	... 3ivss.	3j. gr. xv.
Bicarbonate of soda	3vij. 9j.	5x. 9ij.

(2) Process for Blood Manure. See *C. & D.*, December 24, 1898, page 1027.

93/19. *G. F. G. G.* (Paris).—By passing ozone through bad-smelling oils the odour is improved and any dark colour

lightened, but the characters of the oils are so altered that the process is not to be recommended for those intended for internal use. See *C. & D.*, December 10, 1898, page 939.

78/90. *Inquirer*.—The sample of dye-stuff which you say goes by the name of "Gools" appears to be spirit-soluble aniline black.

81/8. *R. H.*—Grafting Trees.—Information is given on this in standard gardening books, such as Nicholson's "Dictionary of Gardening" (Gill), or Beeton's "Book of Garden-management" (Ward, Lock). Baltet's "Art of Grafting and Budding," published in 1882, is good, but a new edition has not, as far as we are aware, been brought out since that date.

90/56. *J. H. R.*—We think you will procure "Camille Rousset's "Chemical and Drug Trades of the World" through Hachette's, King William Street, W.C.

165/15. *Hair Oil*.—Mr. George Weddell's "How do I Stand?" and Thornton's "First Lesson in Book-keeping," (2*s.* 6*d.*, Macmillan), are good books from which to devise a system of Bookkeeping for Chemists. The various sidelines of the business have been dealt with in our columns and in the DIARIES many times in the past few years.

85/59. *Carlos*.—A rough way of Testing Lin. Camphor is to heat the oil to constant weight and calculate the loss of camphor. The more correct way was expounded by Mr. Liversedge in an article in the *C. & D.* Winter number, 1899.

94/10. *Quercus*.—(1) Ink-powder:—

Tannic acid	... ..	3j.
Dried iron sulphate	... ..	3iiss.
Gum arabic	... ..	gr. lxxv.
Sugar	... ..	9ij.
Aniline water—blue B.	... ..	9ij.

This quantity makes a wine-bottle of ink when that volume of soft water is boiled with it for ten minutes. (2) Soldering Fluid is a solution of chloride of zinc (made by dissolving zinc to saturation in spirit of salt). Soldering-paste is deliquesced chloride of zinc mixed with kaolin or kieselguhr. (3) Oil of Tar is the product, more or less crude, left after the distillation of wood tar. (4) Shellac is not entirely soluble in methylated spirit. The wax remains unaffected by that solvent. (5) Bismarck brown Colours Lace Curtains a cream colour, and may afterwards be entirely removed by washing if desired. (6) Dilute acids would, according to chemical analogy, be ideal applications to assist the decay of stumps of teeth. A better way would be to use a dental-drill. (7) Dairy-requisites are supplied by such firms as Bradford & Co., High Holborn, W.C., and the Dairy Supply Company (Limited), Museum Street, W.C.

90/70. *Nodrog*.—(1) The soluble vegetable colours other than aniline dyes are prepared by processes similar to that employed in making aqueous extracts. The various dye-woods—fustic, logwood, alkanet, madder—are much used, other colours being made from saffron, cochineal, and chlorophyll. (2) The new Sale of Food and Drugs Act is not intended to interfere with the use of preservatives and harmless colourings in cases where their use is required; but the report of the commission now sitting to consider the question of preservatives and colourings in food may result in legislation—in what direction we cannot foretell.

91/69. *W. F.*—Nine grains of gingerin is equivalent to 1 oz. of tr. zingiberis fort., B.P. 1885, so that 180 gr. of gingerin dissolved in 1 pint. of 90-per-cent. alcohol would make an similar preparation to tr. zingib. fort.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

101/68. Smart's sterilisers: where obtainable.

99/53. Makers of common burst-off-neck bottles.

103/136. Moonseed ointment: where obtainable.

104/1. Address of the makers of Hotham's chemical cabinets.



## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

### 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: June 14.

**T**HERE has been little activity in the drug and chemical markets this week, and there are few alterations to report. The forthcoming drug-auctions are likely to be heavy in a few leading staples, such as aloes, benzoin, cardamoms, and wax, and it is anticipated that there will be a good demand. Citric and tartaric acids are firmly held and cream of tartar is higher. Quinine is lower in second-hands in spite of an advance in the unit at Amsterdam last week. Cyanide is in good demand at firmer rates. Shellac declined in auction, turpentine has had a slump, and so has sugar of milk. The following are the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Caraway-seed Cream of tartar Oil, anise, star Oil, lemon Oil, linseed	Pot. cyanide Wax (Japan)	Acid, carbolie Ammonia sulphate Benzols Pepper	Cauary-seed Cocoa-butter Ginger (Jam.) Oil, turpentine Oil, wintergreen Quicksilver Quinine Shellac (Button) Sugar of milk

### Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from June 7 to 13, both inclusive:—**LONDON.**—Anised oil (Chin.), 20; bird-lime (Jap.), 155; camphor (Jap.), 303 tubs, 200 cases; cardamoms, 166; chamomiles, 3; cinchona, (Ceylon) 171, (E.I.) 823, (Java) 374; citronella oil, 10; cod-liver oil, 200; croton-seed, 3; cumin-seed, 62; dragon's-blood, 7; gentian, 10; ginger (Jap.) 103, (Jam.) 604; gum (unenumerated from Bombay), 386; gum olibanum, 600; honey, (N.Z.) 40, (Calif.) 35; ipecacuanha, 5; lavender-flowers, 5; lemongrass oil, 2; lime-juice (U.S.), 29; nux vomica, (Madras) 531 bags, (Cochin) 1,013 bags, (Mangalore) 79 bags; opium, 4; orris, 13; quicksilver, 200; quinine, 4 cases; saffron, 2; sandalwood, 53; soy, 179; turmeric 90, (Bombay) 436; wax (Jap.), 75; wax, bees', 21. **SOUTHAMPTON.**—Buchu, 20; cocaine (crude), 8; cocoa-butter, 18; "drugs," 10 cs. (from Acapulco, presumably balsam pern), 7 (from Panama), 4 bs. (from Savanilla), honey (Jam.) 15, (Chil.) 174; insect-powder, 42; oil, lime, 5. **LIVERPOOL.**—Balsam copaiba (Mar.), 2; castor oil (E.I.), 1,434; gum (W.C.A.), 212; honey (Chil.), 281; iodine, 95; quinine, 44 cs. (from Amsterdam); sarsaparilla, 24; tamarinds (E.I.), 18; wax (Chil.) 75, (unenumerated) 18; wax (Jap.), 400. **HULL.**—Oil, cod-liver (Aalesund), (Christiania) 10, 398.

### Bulgarian Rose-crop.

*Kezanlık, June 9.*

In addition to the letter published last week, we have received the following from a special correspondent in Bulgaria:—"The rose-distillation is just now in full swing throughout the entire districts. The harvest began about a fortnight ago, with most promising prospects, and, as the weather has been exceptionally favourable, the yield so far has been very satisfactory indeed. As matters stand at present, the crop is looked upon as one of the best, and the new otto of the richest quality. If the present cool weather continues, the harvest will last two weeks longer. The old stock left over from last year amounts to about 10,000 T. oz."

## Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

There is little of change or of special importance to be reported as regards the condition of the heavy-chemical market. The general demand has perhaps fallen off a little, but on the whole business continues to be very satisfactory at all the main centres. There is little variation in values, late figures being for the most part well maintained.

**ALKALI-PRODUCE.**—The all-round demand continues good, and stocks are not very heavy. Bleaching-powder and caustic soda are particularly in heavy request. Soda crystals, too, are meeting with greater demand. Ammonia alkali and bicarbonate steady.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA** is dull, and a trifle lower. Present figures are about as follows:—Beckton, 11l. 10s.; Beckton terms, 11l. to 11l. 2s. 6d.; Leith and London, 11l. 2s. 6d. to 11l. 5s.; and Hull, 11l. to 11l. 2s. 6d.

**WHITE POWDERED ARSENIC** is very firm, and in good demand. Price now stands at about 20l. 10s. per ton ex ship Garston.

**BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA** are offering at slightly lower figures.

**TIN CRYSTALS** are in fair request and steady, at 10d. to 10½d. per lb.

**BORAX.**—Very firm and in steady demand at late rates. Powdered 18s. per cwt., and crystals 17s. per cwt. Boracic-acid crystals and powdered, 26s. and 28s. per cwt. respectively.

**COAL-TAR PRODUCTS** generally are dull. Carbolic acids are a shade lower, and benzols are flat, and also show a decline.

**COLOURS** are in moderately good demand, and prices remain practically unchanged. Yellows, 9s. to 16s. per cwt., according to quality; pulp yellows, 30s. to 36s. per cwt.; pure chrome, 50s. per cwt.; greens, 35s. to 36s. per cwt.; green, free of arsenic, 35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. per cwt.; pulp blues, 18s. per cwt. to 42s. per cwt., according to strength; pure ivory black, 15s. 6d. to 16s. per cwt.; mineral black, 3s. to 4s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality; oxides of iron, finest, 20l. per ton, medium, 10l., and common, 7l.; ochres, 50s. per ton up, according to strength and shade; French J.C., 60s. to 65s.; French J.F., 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s.; numbers, 40s. to 60s. per ton; Turkish raw, 7l. 10s. per ton.

## Liverpool Drug Market.

*Liverpool, June 13*

**CASTOR OIL.**—The recent arrival by the ss. *Logician* has not sensibly affected the market, and values are fully maintained. One or two holders, to clear their parcels from the quay, might possibly shade the current price of 3½d. The Calcutta prices are said to be very much in excess of the values ruling in Liverpool. First-pressure French and English is selling freely at 3½d. to 3½½d. per lb.; second-pressure English, French, and Belgian are offering at 3½d. per lb.

**HONEY.**—Further sales have been made of Californian of 44s. to 45s. per cwt., and now 47s. is lowest for the remaining small stocks of pale liquid and white set. Of Peruvian and Chilean small and large parcels continue to arrive, but the values are not quotably affected, and for the lower grades considerable firmness is exhibited on the part of holders.

**QUILLAIA-BARK.**—Notwithstanding the heavy arrival by steamer just in, prices have been well maintained, and importers exhibit considerable confidence in the future of the market. Value ranges from 13l. 5s. to 13l. 15s. per ton, as in quality and quantity.

**GINGER, AFRICAN.**—Ninety-three bags fair quality sold from the quay at 24s., and 41 packages of good sound dry in store realised 27s. 6d. per cwt. The available stocks of African on the spot are now very small, and 26s. per cwt. is asked to clear.

**GUM-ACACIA SORTS.**—Small sales have been made of Soudan sorts at 75s. and 80s. per cwt. The movement in other directions is only nominal.

**CANARY-SEED.**—The flatness in this is maintained, and value of good bright Turkish is now not more than 32s. 6d. to 34s. per quarter.

**BRESWAX.**—Values are unchanged for Chilean and Peruvian, but stocks seem to be gradually accumulating owing to the indisposition of buyers to operate to any extent at present range of values.

**GRAN. PARAD.**—Eight bags were offered at auction, and a bid of 75s. cwt. was put forward. Owners decline to consider anything under 100s.

**CREAM OF TARTAR.**—Is firmer on the spot; value is now 77s. 6d. to 84s. per cwt., according to quality.

## German Drug Market.

*Hamburg, June 12.*

Our drug-market is very quiet, and shows only a very few alterations since last week.

**AGAR-AGAR** continues firm at 375m. per 100 kilos.

**ANTIMONY** is easier at 38m. per 100 kilos.

**CAMPHOR.**—Refined shows a quiet market at unchanged rates; second-hand is held at 475m. per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO-BARK is firm, spot stuff being scarce at 200m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE shows very little business; present quotations are from 300m. to 310m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is quiet at 480m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull and lower at 17m. per kilo.

QUININE is unchanged at 44m. per kilo.

SPIRIT OF TURPENTINE is dull; new arrivals and lower offers from France have depressed the market. American spot is 84m.; delivery next week, 80m.; August-December, 70m. per 100 kilos. delivered here.

WAX (JAPANESE) is firmer at 59m. per 100 kilos.

WAX (CARNAUBA) quieter at from 155m. to 195m. per 100 kilos., according to quality.

ALOES.—Some 48 cases arrived last week direct from the Cape, and at once sold.

IPECACUANHA.—A lot of about 8 bales recently arrived from Rio sold at about 27m. per kilo. Another small lot seems to be still unsold.

OILS.—Castor is quiet, with a very limited demand; first-pressing in barrels for prompt delivery is 62m. per 100 kilos. Linseed oil for spot delivery is very firm and scarce, owing to the total destruction of Mr. F. Thorl's oil-mills by fire last Saturday. The total loss is estimated at about 3 to 3½ million marks. The total damages, including three or four other factories, amount to about 7 million marks.

ESSENTIAL OILS.—Caraway-seed is advancing, owing to higher prices paid for seed. Peppermint is quiet at 5.05m. per lb. for HGH; Japanese, 7½m. per kilo. Cassia oil is quiet. Star-anise oil is 13½m. to 15m. per kilo.

### American Drug Market.

*New York, June 5.*

Business has improved slightly, but the general market nevertheless presents a somewhat tame appearance. Some of the indigenous drugs are exhibiting a downward tendency owing to the approach of the new crop.

BALSAMS.—Copaiba is jobbing steadily at 35c. per lb. for prime Central American, and 40c. for Pará. Peru is dull at \$1.25, and tolu almost entirely neglected, and quotations nominal at 28c. to 30c. per lb.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Arrivals are more plentiful, and an easier feeling is prevalent. Quotations for No. 1 are 21c. to 23c. per lb., for No. 2 19c. to 20c., and 18c. to 19c. for No. 3.

CASCARA SAGRADA is in very light demand, and old bark can be bought at a slight concession, 4¼c. to 6½c. being asked, according to age.

ERGOT is obtainable at 40c. per lb., but the demand is very small, and stocks of Russian are heavy.

GOLDEN SEAL (HYDRASTIS).—Old root is steady at 53c. to 55c., but new spring root is obtainable at 45c.

IPECAC. (RIO) is again easier, and packages are offered at \$3 per lb.

QUININE is inactive, and quotations show no change.

SARSAPARILLA is in better demand and firmer, but still obtainable at 7¼c. per lb. for Mexican.

SENEGA.—Old is unchanged at 45c. per lb., but new to arrive is offered at 40c.

SENNA-LEAVES.—Tinnevely, of prime quality, is scarce, and quotations firm at 7c. to 14c. Alexandrian quiet and unchanged.

SERPENTARIA.—Spot prices have declined to 29c. New root to arrive is offered at lower figures.

LEAVES.—Buchu show a decline to 14c. for short. Supplies are liberal, and demand poor. Belladonna are in better supply; 13c. will buy. Damiana are quiet, and offered freely at 8¼c. Henbane are easier owing to heavy spot stocks. Quotations are easy at 12c. to 13c.

MENTHOL is unsettled, and sales have been made at \$2.25 per lb. It is doubtful if any more can be had at this figure, most holders asking \$2.40 to \$2.50.

PEPPERMINT OIL is easier owing to light demand and anticipations of a large crop this year. Quotations have been reduced, and holders will sell Western at 87¼c., and Wagner County at 92½c.

SASSAFRAS-BARK is offering more freely, and quotations are lower, 8c. to 10c. per lb. being asked.

SOAP-BARK is in good demand at 5¼c. for crushed, and 3½c. for whole.

### Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, June 14, 1.46 P.M.:—Refined camphor is quieter in tendency, the latest price being 478m. per 100 kilos. Agar agar is firmer at 375m. per 100 kilos., and ergot is quiet.

\* \* \* \*

BERGEN, June 14, 11.40 A.M.:—The catch at Finmarken has been very good this week, owing to fair weather. Up to date the number of cod caught is 33,337,000, against

31,209,000 at the corresponding period of last year. The yield will be 25,831 barrels, against 28,227 barrels last year. The market is quiet, at 72s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen.

\* \* \* \*

NEW YORK, June 14, 2.56 P.M.:—The condition of things on this market is tame. Opium is firm at \$3.12 per lb., and domestic quinine is strong at 31c. per oz. Senega-root is lower at 38c. per lb., and buchu-leaves are weak at 12c. per lb. The new arrivals of serpentry-root are selling at 28c. per lb., and sarsaparilla is easy at 7½c. per lb.

ACID, CITRIC.—Is firmly held at 1s. 4¼d. per lb. for B.P. crystals, for prompt delivery. Makers still decline to book forward contracts.

ACID, TARTARIC.—Quotations are unchanged but firm at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. for English, and 1s. for foreign.

ALOES will probably be in heavy supply at next week's drug-sales, the offerings including a parcel of 400 cases Curaçao of old import. Sales of Socotrine in kegs have been made this week at 72s. 6d. per cwt. for export to the United States.

AMMONIA SULPHATE has had a slight relapse after the recent advance, spot quotations showing a reduction of 2s. 6d. per ton, now 11l. 2s. 6d.

ARROWROOT.—Very dull. At auction on Wednesday the whole of the offerings were bought in at 2¼d. to 2¾d. per lb. for common St. Vincents, and at 3d. to 3½d. per lb. for good.

BALSAM TOLU has been in slow demand of late. To arrive, 1s. 2¾d. is quoted for 50-lb. tins in cases, and 1s. 3¼d. for 10-lb. tins in cases.

BELLADONNA-ROOT.—Is coming to hand slowly, holders asking from 38s. to 40s. per cwt., c.i.f. Belladonna-leaves are unobtainable on the spot.

BENZOIN.—The demand is still for the lower grades of Sumatra, several parcels of which have been sold at from 6l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. 10s. per cwt. for very ordinary seconds. Several parcels of gum at about 6l. and a shade under will be offered next week, and these are likely to be in demand. Nine cases of brown Siam thirds in block have arrived this week.

BUCHU has been in better demand this week, moderate sales of good green leaf having been made at from 5½d. to 6d. per lb.

CAMPHOR.—Further sales of Japanese crude have been made at 180s. per cwt., c.i.f., and for spot stuff 190s. is reported to have been paid. Pressed is quoted 197s. 6d. per cwt.

Advices from Hong-Kong, dated May 11, report that owing to several native holders being short of money, the price declined to \$92, but most probably will rise again as soon as the demand from Europe sets in. The shipments for the preceding fortnight amount to 1,873 cases, of which 1,181 cases were sent to Europe; the sales were 326 cases and the stock 1,000 cases.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Ceylon for the week ending May 21 were 34,899 lbs.. From January 1 to May 21 they were:—

	1900	1899	1898	1897
Lbs. ...	194,510	336,700	288,571	333,383

COCAINE keeps quiet, but makers are firm at 16s. 3d. per oz. Crude has advanced to 400m. in Hamburg.

COCA-LEAVES.—The new crop is arriving on the New York market in small lots. Fair green Truxillo leaves are quoted 11d. per lb., c.i.f., and Huanoco 1s. 4d.

COCOA-BUTTER.—In auction on Tuesday 130 tons Cadbury's brand sold at 1s. 3¾d. per lb. down to 1s. 3d., closing 1s. 3½d., or about 2d. to 2½d. lower.

COLCHICUM-ROOT is firmly held for 32s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. Seed is unobtainable on the spot.

COLOCYNTH.—For common Turkey apple 1s. 4d. per lb. now asked, and 1s. 6d. for good. Seedy Spanish is quoted 8d. per lb.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firmer, and in fair demand 77s. per cwt. for first white crystals, and 79s. for powder 98 per cent. (B.P.) is 81s.



**DAMIANA.**—The crop gathered this season was below expectations both in quality and quantity;  $4\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb., c.i.f., is quoted by one holder.

**DRAGON'S-BLOOD.**—Quiet and unchanged. About 12 cases of fine and medium in block have arrived this week.

**ERGOT.**—Quiet. The stock of Spanish in Hamburg is estimated at 1 ton; good current quality is offered from there at 2s. 7d. per lb. c.i.f., and ditto Russian at 1s.  $4\frac{3}{4}$ d. c.i.f. Business has been done this week at 2s. 9d., spot, for Spanish.

**GLYCERIN.**—Advices from Berlin report that considerable quantities of crude have been exported to the United States. The dynamite factories are now coming forward as buyers of crude, and prices have been advanced.

**GUM ARABIC.**—Persian so-called insoluble sorts have been in more inquiry, especially for the lower grades, 18s. 6d. per cwt. having been paid for inferior reddish. It is rumoured from the Continent that the Indian Government intend to place a duty on all gum arabic exported to Europe, but it lacks confirmation.

**INSECT-FLOWERS.**—A Trieste correspondent, writing on May 31, reports that there is a good demand at steady prices. The prospects for the new flowers are satisfactory, and the crop is likely to be a good medium one, providing the present favourable weather holds out. A small first arrival of new half-closed flowers has been sold at 62s. per cwt. The following are the current prices, f.o.b. Trieste, for old crop:—Wild, 102s. to 106s. per cwt.; closed, 83s. to 92s.; half-open, 50s. to 68s.; and open, 44s. 6d. to 45s. 3d. The stock in Trieste at the end of May was 145,800 kilos., against 194,100 kilos. at the end of April. The receipts for last month were 14,200 kilos., and the deliveries 62,500 kilos.

**IPECACUANHA.**—About a dozen bales of Rio in first hands have been disposed of this week at from 12s. 3d. to 12s. 6d. per lb. for export to the United States. For Cartagena 9s. is the nominal quotation, but a shade under this figure would buy. Twenty-two bales of this description have arrived this week, but no Rio.

**JALAP.**—For good sound tubers  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. is wanted, and it is reported that a sale has been made at this figure. To arrive  $6\frac{3}{4}$ d., c.i.f., is asked.

**KINO.**—Holders are now asking from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. for Cochín grain, which is about 3d. advance on last prices paid. A sale is reported at the inside figure.

**MENTHOL.**—Quiet, with sellers at from 7s. 9d. to 8s. per lb., according to holder.

**OIL, ANISE, STAR,** is about 2d. per lb. dearer this week, 6s. having been paid for spot stuff, and there are further sellers at this figure.

**OIL, BERGAMOT,** is firmly held at from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per lb. c.i.f., according to quality. Messina merchants have advanced their prices again this week, 38-per-cent. oil being quoted 8s., and 40-per-cent. 8s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

**OIL, CAMPHOR.**—In fair demand, at 36s. per cwt. for refined. Shipments have been arriving freely of late.

**OIL, CASTOR.**—Quiet. Belgian keeps scarce at 31s. 6d. to 31s. 9d. per cwt. for first-pressing on the spot, and second-pressing 28s. 6d. Hull make is 34s. in barrels, and  $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. in cases for medicinal; first-pressing, 31s. 6d. and  $3\frac{1}{4}$ d.; seconds, 29s. and  $3\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. ex-wharf London.

Advices from Calcutta, dated May 24, report that prices have moved steadily upwards, and there are now no sellers of good seconds under 12.12r., and of thirds 12.8r. per B. md. net weight, f.o.b., and even at these rates only small lots are procurable.

**OIL, COD-LIVER.**—The market continues neglected, with sellers at about the figures previously quoted.

**BERGEN, June 9.**—The fisheries on the western coast of Finmarken are now approaching an end, and on the eastern coast they will hardly last any longer than about two weeks from now. The catch for the entire district has not increased as much as expected. On the market there is as yet very little speculation in non-congealing oil, but holders do not seem inclined to dispose of their stocks at the present quotation of 72s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports to date from Bergen amount to 3,470 barrels, against 5,547 at the corresponding period of last year.

**OIL, LEMON.**—According to advices from Messina the market is still rising, one agent quoting 3s. 7d. per lb., c.i.f.,

for pure oil. This week 3s. 8d. has been paid in Messina, and still higher prices are looked for.

**OIL, TURPENTINE,** has considerably declined, both for spot and forward delivery. American on the spot is now 39s. per cwt.

**OIL, WINTERGREEN,** is quoted 5s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f., for pure in tins, and 6s. 3d. for special brands.

**OILS, FIXED.**—Linseed is dearer at 33s. 6d. in pipes landed, and 33s. 9d. in barrels. Rape, refined, 30s., and Ravison, 29s. Cotton firmer, refined 23s. to 24s. for casks, Coconut, Ceylon, 25s.; Cochin, 28s. per cwt.

**OPIUM.**—In Persian, further small sales of fine have been made at 13s. 6d. per lb., and the supply in second hands is now practically exhausted.

**SMYRNA, June 1.**—The sales for the week amount to 33 cases takeable at from 8s. 8d. to 8s. 11d. per lb., c.i.f., and 5 cases inspected Karabissar at 9s. The arrivals of old crop amount to 2,736 cases, against 1,748 cases last year. Abundant rains have fallen during the past three days.

**CONSTANTINOPLE, June 8.**—The stock of "druggists" here is practically exhausted, but new crop will probably begin to come in next week. For the time being everything points to a yield of 7,500 cases if fine weather continues.

**PETROLEUM.**—Business has been confined to spot requirements, and values have given way all round. Prime and Standard white American spot is worth  $6\frac{3}{4}$ d. to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon, and water-white  $7\frac{5}{8}$ d. to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d.; prime white Russian  $6\frac{1}{4}$ d.

**PODOPHYLLUM-ROOT** is quiet and unchanged at 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt., c.i.f., for fall-dug.

**POTASSIUM CYANIDE** has advanced  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. this week, the lowest price for contracts now being 1s. 1d. per lb.

**QUICKSILVER** was reduced to 9l. 7s. 6d. per bottle on Thursday.

**QUININE** has been in slow demand this week, and the spot quotation in second hands has dropped  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz., small sales having been made at 1s.  $2\frac{3}{4}$ d. per oz., but 1s. 3d. was the general asking-price on Wednesday. To-day there has been more activity, and the spot quotation has advanced about  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per oz., 1s.  $3\frac{1}{4}$ d. having been paid, and 1s.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. for October delivery.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Honduras, all rolled, is held for 1s. 6d. per lb. spot, and Mexican is quoted  $4\frac{1}{4}$ d. to  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. c.i.f. Of pale native red, 8 bales have arrived this week, but no Lima-Jamaica or grey Jamaica.

**SENEGA.**—Stocks in New York are reported to be very light, and reports from the interior are to the effect that little relief can be expected from these quarters. Manitoba is quoted 1s. 11d., and Minnesota 2s. per lb. c.i.f.

**SERPENTARY.**—New crop for June delivery is quoted 1s. 5d. per lb. c.i.f.

**SEEDS.**—Dutch *Caraways* are considerably dearer, the crop being estimated at half the average with small stocks. The price in Holland is 30s. to 31s. per cwt., f.o.b., and 32s. has been paid on the spot for good quality. Turkish *Canary* is lower at 29s. per quarter, although news from Turkey points to a small crop. There is nothing doing in *Anise*. New crop Morocco *Cumin* is arriving, so prices may be expected to be easier, but Malta growers are very firm at present quotations. *Coriander* quiet, with only retail transactions. *Fennugreek* slow of sale, at 6s. 3d. per cwt.

**SHELLAC.**—At auction on Tuesday, the supplies were small and demand slow, second orange barely selling at previous rates. The following prices were paid:—

Second orange, without reserve, fine pale, 73s.; good bright red cakey, 62s.; curly red cakey, 58s.; flat, free dull palish, 58s.; ordinary liver worked, 52s. Button, ordinary to fair firsts, "without reserve," 59s. to 61s.; circle 2's, 55s. 6d.; blocky firsts, 62s.; ditto, seconds, 57s.; thirds, 50s. per cwt.

**SPICES.**—The public sales were resumed on Wednesday, after an interval of three weeks, and, in consequence, were larger than usual; but Jamaica ginger and West India spices constituted the bulk of the offerings. There was practically no demand for Cochin *Ginger*, and washed rough was bought in at 31s. to 33s. per cwt. and Calicut at 34s., small rough Cochin at 29s., boldish at 35s., and cuttings at 30s. per cwt. All the cut qualities also were bought in;



a small lot of brown tips sold at 30s. per cwt. Japan was withdrawn at 28s., but privately small sales are being made at 25s. per cwt. Jamaica, in large supply, sold fairly well at a reduction of 2s. to 3s. per cwt., ordinary lean at 43s. to 46s., small to middling washed at 50s. to 60s., fair to good at 63s. to 71s., and good bold at 81s. to 86s. per cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* are steady, but quiet, at 3½*d.* per lb. for June-August delivery and at 3¼*d.* for January-March next year. Good Ceylon sold at 6*d.* per lb.; Penang were bought in at 7*d.* to 8*d.* for common to fair. *Clove-stems* were bought in at 1½*d.* per lb. Good red picked Nyassaland *Chillies* were withdrawn at 48s. per cwt. Fine Natal *Capsicums* sold at 92s. to 95s. per cwt., and bright East India cherries at 31s. 6*d.* per cwt.; long thin red were bought in at 31s. and yellow at 28s. *Pimento* slow, and all bought in at 3½*d.* to 3¼*d.* per lb. for common to middling. *Cinnamon* sold at 9½*d.* per lb. for fair seconds, quillings out at 7½*d.*, and chips at 3½*d.* *Broken cassia* sold at 25s. 6*d.* to 26s. per cwt. for common twiggly, and at 38s. to 39s. 6*d.* per cwt. for good chips. *Pepper* easy. Calicut estate black sold at 6½*d.*, with one lot of bold at 6¼*d.* per lb. Singapore is quoted 6½*d.* on the spot, at 6¾*d.* for near shipment, and at 6½*d.* for distant. Ceylon white sold at 9*d.* per lb. Singapore and Penang white are steady, but in little demand.

**SUGAR OF MILK.**—American make has been reduced about 5s. per cwt. this week, best powder now being quoted at 52s., and seconds ditto 47s. 6*d.* spot. From Hamburg there is a cheap offer of "guaranteed B.P." quality at 49s. per cwt., c.i.f., for 5 or 10 case lots.

**TURMERIC.**—Heavy supplies of split Cochin bulb were offered in auction and bought in. Of 500 bags Madras, only 35 bags sold at 24s. 6*d.* per cwt. subject for fair bright whole bulb.

**WAHOO-BARK** is quoted at 10½*d.* per lb., c.i.f., for bark of the root, which is slightly easier.

**WAX, JAPANESE.**—Quotations from Japan have been advanced to 29s. 9*d.* per cwt., c.i.f. The spot market is quiet, the last transaction was at 33s.

### Indian Otto of Rose.

The Wynaad correspondent of the *Times of Malabar* reports that "a novel and interesting experiment is now being tried by a prominent firm in Madras, who own an enormous extent of land in South Wynaad, with the object of demonstrating whether otto of rose can be profitably distilled in this part of the country." He thinks that, "in capable hands, otto may be locally manufactured on commercial principles, provided a little attention to watering and other details is bestowed." We believe the same correspondent expressed himself in similar terms several years ago, when we doubted the success of the undertaking. What he now says practically confirms that expression.

### Prospects in Matto Grosso.

The French Commercial Agent at Cuyaba, in the State of Matto Grosso, whose article on ipeacacuanha we commented on a fortnight ago, believes that the time is not far distant when that country will be "one of the most profitable regions on the face of the earth," as although the climate is hot it is healthy also. The State greatly favours colonisation, and the laws are "specially favourable." He reports that many rubber-companies have been founded by Belgians and British, and that "ipeacacuanha will certainly not fail to attract company-promoters also." French capitalists, we are told, should decide at once to invest their money in Matto Grosso, as they will eventually realise enormous fortunes. We were always under the impression that the climate of Matto Grosso was a particularly unhealthy one, and that the country was, and is now, in open rebellion with the Brazil Government. If so, our French friend has only given us one side of the picture.

### Oil of Peach-kernel.

By a recent classification of the New York Customs House, peach-kernel oil has been taxed 25 per cent. *ad val.* Importers are protesting against this decision. The oil has always been known as almond oil, and has been sold as such; in fact, the Government have classified peach-kernels as almonds, so importers argue that peach-kernel oil must therefore be almond oil. The annual consumption in the United States reaches an average of 500,000 lbs., which is considerably more than that of the true almond oil. One New York firm is said to dispose of 50,000 lbs. annually.

### Artificial Musk.

A reappraisement has just been decided by the Board of General Appraisers of New York, sustaining an advance of over 4,900 per cent. in the import duty on artificial musk. The case in question arose through a test-importation made by G. Lueders & Co., for the purpose of having a value fixed on the Swiss artificial musk.

The attorneys for the importers stated that the price of 19,000*f.* per kilo. (the value fixed by the appraisers, on the representations of a competing French house) for Swiss artificial musk was a "fantastic value," and that the market-value in Switzerland is a very small fraction of that figure. An appeal has been taken.

### A Picric-acid Factory.

In the course of their annual report for 1899, Messrs. Kynoch (Limited), Birmingham, state that a plant for the manufacture of picric acid was laid down at Arklow, Ireland, at the end of last year, and is now in regular work. The concentration of sulphuric acid, the manufacture of nitric acid, acetone, cordite, and high explosives had also been carried on at Arklow during the year.

### U.S. Drug-imports.

A valuable return has been issued by the Department of State at Washington, showing the imports of drugs to the United States from all parts of the world for the quarter ending December 31, 1899. We give below a selection, together with the value and country of origin:—Aconite-uoot (Innsbrück), \$206; aloes (Cape), \$979, (Curaçao) \$3,410; arnica-flowers (Marseilles), \$492; balsam copaiba (Bahia) \$787, (Barranquilla) \$340, (Cartagena) \$865, (Panama) \$512, (Maracaibo) \$1,192; balsam tolu (Barranquilla) \$2,957, (Cartagena) \$649; belladonna-root (Budapest) \$578, (Marseilles) \$663; buchu, \$227; chamomiles (Budapest), \$872; cinchona (Barranquilla) \$206, (Amsterdam) \$136,891; civet (Arabia) \$3,032, (Cairo) \$1,013; coca-leaves (Callao) \$1,505, (Truxillo) \$1,825; colocyuth (Marseilles), \$142; cuttlefish (Trieste), \$6,041; gentian (Bordeaux) \$291, (Marseilles) \$448; gum guaiacum (Haiti) \$582; henbane (Marseilles), \$2,167; iodine (Iquique), \$265,974; ipeacacuanha (Barranquilla) \$7, (Cartagena), \$2,172; jalap (V.C.), \$375; juniper-berries (Leghorn), \$2,826; juniper oil (Budapest), \$202; lime oil (W.L.), \$636; lycopodium (Russ.), \$2,714; orris, \$9,363; quinine (Amst.) \$7,456; saffron (Havre), \$4,482; sarsaparilla (Belize) \$1,264, (Barranquilla) \$19, (Panama) \$247, (Puerto Cortez) \$7,500, (Truxillo) \$2,296, (Tampico) \$4,975; senega (Manitoba) \$444, (Winnipeg) \$12,525; senna (Egypt), \$19,171; vanilla (N.Z.) \$611, (Bordeaux) \$4,833, (Tahiti) \$35,975.

## Coming Events.

### Tuesday, June 19.

*Chemists' Exhibition*, St. James's Hall, Manchester, on this and three succeeding days.

### Wednesday, June 20.

*Royal Microscopical Society*, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. A demonstration on "The Structure of some Paleozoic Plants," with sections of the plants thrown on the screen, by Mr. William Carruthers, F.R.S., President.

### Thursday, June 21.

*Society of Chemical Industry*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. Papers to be read:—"Notes on the Chemistry of Chlorophyll," by Dr. L. Marchlewski and Mr. C. A. Schunck. "Researches on Morphine," I, by Dr. S. B. Schryver and Mr. F. H. Lees. "A New Series of Pentamethylene Derivatives," I, by Dr. W. H. Perkin, jun., F.R.S., Dr. J. F. Thorpe, and Mr. C. W. Walker. "Experiments on the Synthesis of Camphoric Acid," III, "The Action of Sodium and Methyl Iodide on Ethyl-dimethyl-butanetricarboxylate," by Dr. W. H. Perkin, jun., F.R.S., and Dr. J. F. Thorpe. "On the Oime of Mesoxamide and some Allied Compounds," by Miss M. A. Whiteley, B.Sc. "The Oxyphenoxy- and Phenyleneoxy-acetic Acids," by Mr. W. Carter and Dr. W. T. Lawrence. "The Condensation of Ethyl Alpha-bromo-isobutyrate with Ethyl Malonates and Ethyl Cyanacetates, Alpha-methyl-Alpha-isobutylglutaric Acid, and Methylisocamylsuccinic Acid," II, by Dr. W. T. Lawrence.

THE export of quicksilver from Spain for 1899 shows a decrease of 3 tons under 1898, when 43 tons were exported. The United Kingdom took 17 tons (2,380*l.*) and France 23 tons (3,220*l.*) in 1899.





